

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LVI.]

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EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

M. Combes, the French Premier, begged the Budget Committee to abstain from reading General Vignon's report about the "Boxer" disturbances. The Committee by a majority of one vote decided to receive the report, but to maintain secrecy as to its contents.

L'Echo de Chine says that M. Delouche has written to M. Delcassé recommending to his patriotic solicitude thousands of Laotians, Cambodians, Annamites, and Chinese, French subjects or protégés, whom the convention of the 7th of October abandons pitilessly to torture and slavery.

M. Delouche, deputy for Cochinchina, has written to the French Colonial Minister, characterising the establishment of a gold standard in Siam which we announced here last Saturday as an economic coup calculated to entail the gravest consequences to the finances of Indo-China, and particularly to the rice-market at Saigon. He demands the immediate nomination of a commission of enquiry to present a solution before the 1st January. M. Doumergue has decided to institute this Commission and promises to take the necessary measures to avert the crisis threatening French possessions in the Far East immediately the Commission has formulated an opinion.

Our London correspondent telegraphing on the 3rd inst. gave the following details with reference to the Shanghai evacuation question:— "The official correspondence with regard to the evacuation of Shanghai was published to day. It appears that Germany, in response to Lord Lansdowne's enquiries, consented to the general terms for the evacuation of the port, but in October she stipulated that the Peking Government and the Yangtze Viceroy should engage not to grant any Power special political, military, maritime, or economic advantages nor to allow the occupation of any other points commanding the river either above or below Shanghai. Prince Ching denied to Sir Ernest Satow, H.B.M. Minister at Peking, that Germany had submitted any conditions to China, but Sir Ernest Satow ascertained that Prince Ching had already accepted Germany's proposals. Lord Lansdowne then instructed the British Minister to inform Prince Ching that his double dealing was deeply resented and that Great Britain would not be bound by any pledges limiting China's and our freedom of action regarding the maintenance of order and the protection of our interests in the Yangtze region. Japan cordially supported Great Britain. Germany intimates that she has received assurances from China, and regarded her conditions as fulfilled. Lord Lansdowne replied that he understood that these assurances referred to the whole of China, excluding the sovereign territorial rights already alienated. The subsequent correspondence indicates that the evacuation of Shanghai is now only a matter of transports." Referring to the subject earlier in the week, the *London Standard* assumed that the Franco-German postponement of the evacuation of Shanghai concerned the Yangtze question, and said that the matter might be confidently left to Lord Lansdowne whose principal task with regard to China now is to keep the Yangtze provinces primarily a British sphere of influence.

We regret to announce that Mr. A. E. Buck the United States Minister to Japan, died suddenly of heart disease at Tokyo on the 4th inst.

A Peking despatch to Japan says it has been ascertained that the report to the effect that the Russians were actually engaged in constructing a railway from Lake Baikal to Changhaiakao, near Peking, is entirely unfounded.

Mr. von Hanneken writes to the *P. & T. Times* to dissipate the fears that Chang Yen-mao, Mr. Deiring, and himself have any sinister designs in their agitation with regard to the Chinese Engineering and Mining Co. All they want is to know clearly what has become of £525,000 of the capital. They disown Mr. Yang altogether.

Owing to the remarkable success of tea-growing in the Caucasus, the Russian Ministry of Agriculture has decided to establish the industry on a sound basis, and to this end will import experts from China, India, and Ceylon. The prices realised for this season's yield of fourteen tons varied from twenty six to fifty-two pence per pound.

Mr. Austen Chamberlain, speaking in the House of Commons, said that when the Eastern mail arrangements are revised, he will bear in mind the suggestion of the P. and O. Company that their steamers call at a port in British North Borneo, but in view of the small correspondence, and intricate navigation, it was hardly likely that the change would prove justifiable.

The *Times* in a sympathetic article on Japanese politics, especially in connection with their Naval Scheme and Land Tax, says that the Japanese are a proud and patriotic people. Marquis Ito will prosecute the policy of naval extension if accepted in power, and he hopes that a compromise between the supporters of the Naval Scheme and the opponents of the Land Tax will be possible.

At the request of the Japanese Commissioner and the Russian Commissioner, negotiations in connection with the new treaty were resumed on Monday, says the *Shanghai Times* of the 26th ult. by the Chinese Commissioner, Lu Hai Huan. The topic of the day was inland navigation and free access to the interior. This conference was the first since the death of Liu Kung Yi. The revised tariff has not yet been accepted in its entirety by the Russian and French Governments. The newly revised American Chinese Treaty is said to contain forty articles.

The Borneo dinner has been held in London, two hundred guests assembling under the presidency of Mr. Richard B. Martin, M.P., Chairman of the British North Borneo Company. Mr. W. C. Cowie, of the London Court of Directors, announced a hope that the British Government would assist the company to raise a loan of half a million sterling, wherewith to redeem its debentures and prosecute promising developments. Sir George Goldie advocated the wholesale introduction of Chinese labour. Reuter is informed that the Borneo Company has applied to the British Government for a loan or the guarantee of a loan of half a million sterling bearing interest at the rate of three per cent. per annum.

BIRTH.

On the 29th November, at the Mercantile Bank House, the wife of F. H. YEATS, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 22nd November, at the Presbyterian Church, Singapore, by the Rev. S. S. Walker, GRAHAM HUTCHISON, Shipyard Superintendent, Riley Haig, & Co. Ltd., to AGNES ROBERTA RAE, only daughter of the late JOHN RAE.

On the 22nd November, at St. Mary's Church, Kuala Lumpur, by the Rev. Frank G. Swindell, PERCY FURLONG, second son of Lieut. Colonel JAMES WILLIAM WISE, of Alton, Leicestershire, South Devon, to SARA MARGARET, youngest daughter of the late GEORGE BETHUR and Mrs. BETHUR, of Wroster, Ashburton Road, Southsea.

On the 3rd December, at St. John's Cathedral, by the Rev. F. T. Johnson, M.A., CARL ERNST PAUL MATTHEUSSEN, son of Capt. MATTHEUSSEN, Queen's Hussars, Berlin, to ELLA MARY EDITH KING, daughter of G. J. W. KING, Hong Kong.

DEATHS.

On the 19th November, at the General Hospital, Singapore, JOHN MC LARDY, Superintendent Shipwright at the Keppel Harbour Section of Tanjong Pagar Dock Company's Works, aged 58 years.

On the 25th November, at the General Hospital, Shanghai, CHARLES C. STZ, aged 38 years.

On the 26th November, at No. 56, North Szechow Road, Shanghai, CHARLES HEWICK QUEEN, aged 58 years.

On the 1st December, at Kowloon Docks, ANDREW HARVIE, for 20 years Foreman Moulder with the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co. Ltd. Deeply regretted.

Hongkong Weekly Press

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ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The American mail of the 8th November arrived, per P.M. steamer *Korea*, on the 4th December (26 days).

GERMANY AND THE SHANGHAI EVACUATION QUESTION.

(Daily Press, 3rd December.)

When all matters seemed finally settled for the complete evacuation of Shanghai by the unnecessary foreign garrison, which has been there since the troubles of 1900; when the Japanese contingent had already left, and the British had received orders to leave on the 20th instant; suddenly there came the news on Monday that the commanders of the French and German troops had formally declined to quit Shanghai until February next. So far we have received no information as to the reason for this arbitrary attitude. The Germans more than a week ago received orders from Berlin to prepare for evacuation, and their Commander was instructed to confer with the British and French Commanders. The latter of these two received similar orders on the 27th November. Great Britain was accused of delaying the settlement of the difficulty by not sending to Shanghai orders of the same import. No sooner, however, have the British fixed a date for their withdrawal than those who professed to be waiting for them announce their intention of remaining for another three months. Thus the whole miserable business promises to drag on indefinitely, for no confidence can be felt in any future decision as to date of evacuation. When the Japanese troops quitted Shanghai on the 22nd ultimo, the Japanese papers were careful to explain that if the other Powers did not keep to their promise of evacuating the port the Japanese garrison would return. Whether this statement was inspired or not, we do not know. Such conduct on the part of Japan, however, would be logical, if expensive. It may be that in some future year we shall hear what were the grounds for the most remarkable exhibition of Western diplomacy given in this matter of the withdrawal of troops from Shanghai. We are wont to rail at Oriental diplomatic methods as made up chiefly of delay and dishonesty. The apologists of the Western Powers will have a hard task to point out the differences between their clients' conduct in China and China's own ways. It was long ago surmised that international jealousy was at the bottom of the whole difficulty at Shanghai. It is becoming increasingly clear that this jealousy is the sole cause of the continued occupation of the port by France and Germany. An attempt has been made to undermine the British position in the Yangtze Valley. We were unwilling to attribute the inception of this brilliant plot to an European Power, preferring to believe that Prince CHING was chiefly instrumental, in pursuance of the time-honoured Chinese art of dividing the dangerous nations among themselves. But the last move in the game seems to reveal beyond doubt that it is not a Chinese mind which is directing it. No Chinaman of the smallest degree of patriotism would wish to protract the period of the humiliating occupation of Shanghai by foreign garrisons. The schemers must be sought elsewhere. What Britons would chiefly like to know is how the recent exhibitions of German policy can be made to square with the Kaiser's uniformly friendly attitude during the past few years. France, it is plain, is merely taking advantage of the situation; but the springs of German action are still to be discovered. Germans have just been resenting in strong terms the statement made by Sir HORACE RUMBOLD, late British Ambassador at Vienna, in an article in the *National Review*, that Germany is Great Britain's bitterest enemy. But how can

they logically object to such a remark when the history of more than three years points so much in that direction? The British people sees the facts and regrets them. No section of that people regrets them more than Britons in Hongkong, where so many Germans are esteemed fellow-residents. But it is useless, and it would be extremely disastrous, to try to be blind. A good understanding between Great Britain and Germany would conduce more than anything else to the peace of the Far East. But to render that understanding possible a complete change from Germany's late tactics is necessary.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND BUILDINGS BILL.

(Daily Press, 1st December.)

In the debate at last Thursday's meeting of the Legislative Council over the second reading of the Public Health and Buildings Bill, the two questions involved in that measure about which the most interesting and instructive discussion took place were those of compensation—the one thing, H.E. the Governor said, into which they had gone in the new Bill—and of the displacement of population by the operations of the Bill. It was recognised from the first, when Messrs. CHADWICK and SIMPSON drew up the measure for which the Bill before the Council on Thursday was substituted, that a great fight must take place over the compensation question. The two experts, in dealing with the resumption of insanitary properties, did not propose to offer compensation to owners for the erection of sanitary dwellings on land at present unoccupied, nor for the re-erection, on land already occupied, of dwellings of an improved type to those now in existence. The right of an owner, they held, to re-erect dwellings of an insanitary type, because his present dwellings are insanitary, should not be admitted. Otherwise, however, compensation was to be granted “in accordance with the Crown Lands Resumption Ordinance, which appears to follow closely the Imperial Housing of the Working Classes Act,” to quote Messrs. CHADWICK and SIMPSON's own explanation. Last Thursday the Hon. Ho Kai, in his speech as Senior Unofficial Member of the Legislative Council, welcomed the new Bill, as brought forward by the Attorney-General, on behalf of his unofficial colleagues, and then went on to make some remarks which, as was shown later in the debate, were not endorsed by all those colleagues. The remarks were on “the grand principle of compensation,” as Dr. Ho Kai phrased it. We should not like to designate the able gentleman's words as clap-trap, but we think that they came perilously near it when he said:—“We hear, of course, of sacrifices for the public good; well, such men as make these sacrifices are heroes. But you cannot expect every landlord in this Colony, and every Chinese land-owner, to be heroes. They invest their money in houses because they will bring in an income to them of so much per cent. They come to this Colony, relying upon the justice and fairness of English law and the protection of the English flag, and invest their money, and they thought at the time they invested in these houses that they were built in accordance with the law existing at the time. . . . If any landlord likes to sacrifice his land for such a public purpose, he must be called a philanthropist and a public benefactor, but he can scarcely be considered a business man.” The Hon. G. W. F. PLAYFAIR's rejoinder to this was very effective, if blunt. The

root of the matter, he pointed out, was the so much per cent. of which Dr. Ho Kai spoke. “That is why they [the landlords] buy slum property, because they get far more than from any ordinary investment; and should they be considered? They have put up the rentals at the least 100 per cent. in the last ten years. Are you asking the ratepayers to go and save them? There are two sides to that; the ratepayers have also to be considered.” H.E. the Governor, in his speech which concluded the debate, made no further allusion to the compensation question, beyond pointing out that it was the chief feature of the new Bill as opposed to the originally proposed measure; but the Attorney-General had previously endorsed the view that the owners of slum property which had got into an insanitary and dangerous state were entitled to no consideration or sympathy. The abolition of windowless cubicles in Hongkong, in accordance with this, must be carried out without compensation. In the mass of cases of Government resumption of land and of enforced alteration of buildings, etc., compensation will, by the provisions of the Bill, be fixed by the Board appointed for the purpose, consisting of one nominee of the Government and one of the owner, with the Puisne Judge as umpire in event of dispute. The interests of the ratepayers, therefore, will rest entirely in the hands of the Government's nominee, an arrangement which throws a tremendous responsibility upon the latter, and indirectly upon the Unofficial Members of the Legislative Council whose duty it is to see that the popular side is thoroughly presented to the Government's view. While there are in the Council members of the stamp of Mr. PLAYFAIR we may feel assured that the voice of the ratepayers will not be entirely unheard. But a single member has an arduous task.

We have alluded above to the refusal of compensation for enforced abolition of windowless cubicles, which, as Dr. Ho Kai very justly said, are the greatest sanitary evil among the Chinese in this Colony. But the abolition of this evil must, as the members of the Legislative Council and all others who have studied the question recognise, be attended with difficulties; though the total prohibition of such cubicles was advocated as early as 1898 by Messrs. WHITEHEAD and EDE, two of the members of the Commission appointed in 1896 by Sir WILLIAM ROBINSON to report on insanitary properties in Hongkong. The Colonial Secretary made an able, if not quite convincing, defence of the way in which insanitary buildings were allowed in the past to spring up, in accordance with the legislation of the date. Without accepting the “whitewashing” of the Government's character which the Hon. F. H. MAY attempted, we must admit his plea that it is very difficult so to frame a law that nothing objectionable can possibly be built under it, and that owners of properties must accept some responsibilities if they have not followed the advice of their architects and built houses that were reasonably sanitary. Property-owners cannot absolve themselves from the charge of having been careless of the health of the tenants and having paid more attention to the “so much per cent.” side rather than that of their reasonable duties as landlords. With considerable ingenuity they avail themselves now of the argument, which in itself is perfectly sound, that the operations of the new Ordinance will displace a large number of people. We do not say that the argument was not

sincerely advanced by the speakers at the last Council meeting. But it cannot be made a reason for delaying legislation vital to the Colony's well-being. H.E. the Governor pointed out that the action of the Ordinance must be slow and could not approve of the Government "entering with the public money into competition with those whose business it is to build and supply houses for the accommodation of the people." To these he thought it better to leave the solution of the difficulty. He omitted, however, to touch on the question of excessive rents. The cry for fresh house accommodation, which must follow the operation of the Bill, will not produce a lowering of rents. Landlords are not heroes, but business men, as Dr. Ho Kai said. Talk about tramways will not house the homeless, while if the displacement of the overcrowded residents in the shams is to await the slow expansion of Hongkong by means of tramways, etc., it looks as if we must resign ourselves to years more of abominable sanitation and epidemic. Shall we not then be paying too dear for our whistle, to use the Hon. G. S. SHARP's expression? And after all the enjoyment of the whistle is the Government's or the landlords', certainly not the ratepayers'. The Senior Unofficial Member's concluding remarks on the 27th ultimo derive considerable point from this consideration, and should not have been set aside so lightly as they were on that occasion.

RIDER-MAINS AND THE WATER SUPPLY.

(Daily Press, 5th December.)

The letter which appears in another column to-day from a correspondent who signs himself "AQUARIUS" deserves the earnest attention of all residents in this Colony, official or unofficial. Concerning as it does a question of the most vital import to the welfare of Hongkong, it calls notice in particular to a new development which may arise with regard to that question. It is now three weeks since the influential Chinese of Hongkong met and decided on a resolution in favour of laying water-pipes to houses in lieu of having meters fixed. H.E. the Governor having previously expressed his willingness to meet the wishes of the Chinese in the matter of water-meters. The action of the Chinese was held up in some quarters as an example of public spirit, and the advantages of the rider-main were extolled. Writing on the 22nd ultimo, we called attention to the obvious fact that though the auxiliary pipe system might be of great benefit to the users it would in no way increase the storage-capacity for water in Hongkong. Indeed, in so far as it is a means of checking the introduction of meters and gives the Chinese tenement dwellers water unmetered, it makes greater demands on that storage capacity.

The scarcity of water in Hongkong, apart from the question of reservoir capacity, is due to two causes, one of which is the smallness of the rainfall, while the other is the waste of water after it has been stored. The small rainfall, of course, cannot be cured, though an increase of the catchment area tends to counteract it to a slight extent. If the storage-capacity is brought up to the proper level, in good years we shall have enough to allow of the waste which goes on regularly; in bad years we shall still have a deficiency. "AQUARIUS" prophesies that if the rider-main system is carried out Hongkong will be known throughout the East as the town of the six months' water supply - not a cheerful

prospect, as our correspondent says. Why should this be so, however? This brings us to the other cause of the scarcity: that is, waste of water by the more ignorant among the residents, which in Hongkong means practically exclusively the poorer Chinese. These people do not know and it is difficult to suggest how they can be taught that waste of water in a city like Victoria is actually a crime against the community. Before 1890 tenements occupied by Chinese were not supposed to be supplied with house-services of water, though some of them were, either because originally occupied by Europeans or because special indulgences had been granted. The Water Ordinance of 1890 altered this, placing all ratepayers on an equal footing. The effect has been terrible waste of water, the introduction of the intermittent system as a regular institution, and finally anything but an equal distribution of water. It has become plain that, so far from the general distribution of water having resulted fairly all round, it has made those who observe the rules of sanitation and good citizenship suffer for the sins of those who have no notion of such rules or wilfully disregard them. To put a penalty on the waste of water, which it is hopeless to try to stop by educating the people, the water meter system was recently brought in. At once the Chinese were up in arms, and having gained the official ear their leaders have advocated an alternative which has some advantages, no doubt, but threatens nevertheless to condemn us to a continual repetition of the history of recent years. What is more, it is much to be feared that, unless the European residents recognise the dangers of the situation at once and make a vigorous protest, the weight of Chinese influence will carry the day and we shall have an expensive and pernicious addition to our water system foisted on Hongkong. We use the word "pernicious" advisedly, for since the advocacy of the rider-main scheme, we have learnt sufficient to show that the most expert opinion is against its introduction into Hongkong. Some of the reasons we have attempted to show above. The question is one of such very great importance that we shall return to its consideration to-morrow; but we trust that we have said enough to prove that the European residents cannot afford to sit still and watch the persuasion of the Government to adopt a system which will not only not improve our present water supply but will actually tend to make it worse than it is.

THE PAN-GERMANIC MOVEMENT.

(Daily Press, 2nd December.)

If the Pan-Slavonic movement, which Russia is assiduously endeavouring to fan, be at the moment a source of anxiety in Europe, it would be comparatively innocuous were it not aided by the probably more mischievous Pan-Germanic agitation, which since the events of 1870 has been gradually rising into prominence. That the Germanic peoples after a long political effacement, due entirely to their want of combining power, should, now that they have succeeded in founding a genuine German Empire, be desirous of carrying the movement of union to its legitimate conclusion, is not only natural but praiseworthy. It is in the methods by which the irresponsible leaders of the movement seek to carry out their darling project that the danger to the public weal is to be found. The men who brought about the events of 1870 and the foundation of the new German Empire

were statesmen: the men who are dabbling in the new agitation are for the most part ignorant fanatics and, as is exhibited in their attitude towards the two Empires of Germany and Austro-Hungary, unskilled in the first principles of statescraft, and would willingly place their respective Governments in a dilemma from which escape with honour would be impossible. As a fact, even in the most Germanic populations of Europe there is a large element of foreign blood. It is not alone that there are differences of *Hoch* and *Platt*, each with its separate characteristics, but there are infusions of Wendic and other alien races, which have left their marks deep in the body politic. For centuries statesmen have been occupied in bringing these diverse elements together, and now before the old sores are healed these would-be Pan-German enthusiasts would bring the whole back to chaos. Other elements, the fruits of the contests that arose in connection with the fall of the Roman Empire, have not yet died out. Finns, Voguls, Huns and Tartaric races of all sorts, not to mention a large but important infusion of Jewish blood, have in divers times and in divers places left their traces; and in addition to all these the mixture of Slavonic blood is by no means inconsiderable. It is true that compared with the Austro-Hungarian monarchy, North Germany is tolerably homogeneous. The homogeneousness is, however, more apparent than real, and the old differences exhibit themselves from time to time within the walls of the Reichstag. No country that has undergone the vicissitudes, political and social, that have fallen to the lot of Germany within the last twenty centuries can possibly be homogeneous, and the question is only one of degree, not nature, between the two Empires. With a clear instinctive knowledge of these facts, the Emperor FRANCIS JOSEPH has spent his life trying to bring about a reconciliation between the different portions of his chequered monarchy; and for many years had the satisfaction of seeing his efforts meet with encouraging success. His predecessor, by his mistaken policy of seeking by force to bring his subjects into a harmony felt by all to be unnatural, drove his Magyar subjects into armed resistance, a resistance put down by armed force with the ill-omened interference of Russia. With truer statesmanship, and as the direct heir of "King" MARIA THERESA, whose memory is still green in the hearts of his Hungarian subjects, King FRANCIS JOSEPH recognised the legitimacy of the ends for which those faithful Hungarian subjects were striving, with the happy result that his Magyar subjects, from being a source of weakness, at once rallied round the monarchy. Differences in the inner working of the dual monarchy, more especially connected with different financial methods, it was found could be adjusted, and an *Ausgleich* defining the positions of the two sections was drawn up and agreed to; for many years this was found perfectly satisfactory, and for all that has since come to light might have continued working in perfect harmony, to the great advantage of the Empire at large. The present difficulty did not come about through the action in the first instance of either the Magyar or the Slavonic element, both of which are numerically very powerful, and united, far outweigh in wealth and numbers the Germanic element. Unfortunately the Germanic element, which by the force of circumstances has come to have a stronger representation in the councils of the Government than the number or importance of the Germanic portion of the population, with the true

German instinct of forcible repression of individuality, commenced a crusade against the Czech language in Bohemia. It was not that the Bohemians had shown themselves bad subjects, or had in any way thrown obstacles in the way of administration, but that the use of the Czech language in the schools gave umbrage to the Pan-Germanic idea of uniformity. The result was the admission of strife, and when once the demon of strife enters a household we have high authority to foretell the result. We English have long ago learnt the lesson that, next to religious strife, that brought about by attempted interference with language is the most permanent and dangerous; and we have had the satisfaction, while permitting the most perfect freedom, of finding that so far from hindering the growth of a common language, the freedom of choice has had the exactly contrary effect: not so the Teutonic mind, which, unless it see outward uniformity, cannot believe in internal harmony. The result we find not confined to the Austro-Hungarian monarchy, but taken up by the Pan-Germanic party in Germany itself; with the result of there again throwing the half-assimilated elements into discord with the government, and ready to take up with the first disruptive scheme presented to them. This is the true inwardness of the present movements of disaffection. The Slavonian populations of Germany and Austria have no love for the Tsar of Russia nor the Government of which he is the nominal head, but they have a deep and evidently well-founded distrust of the ways of the Pan-Germanic section now unhappily powerful in both Austria and Germany. This is the home-made article that is encouraging Russia in her present course of agitation, and which unfortunately bodes worse evils to come for both of the Germanic Powers, should they not adopt a wiser policy than is at present apparent in their counsels.

THE BRITISH CONSULAR SERVICE.

Daily Press, 4th December.

In the first number of the new *Magazine of Commerce* there appears a very instructive article by Mr. J. H. Yoxall, Liberal M.P. for Nottingham West, on the subject of "The F.O. and the Consular Service." As becomes a contributor to a magazine whose watchword is "The Advancement of Commerce," Mr. Yoxall is very outspoken about the unbusinesslike character of the consular service: "commercially, it is now an elaborate sham." The opening sentences are striking: "A Consul," says the writer, "is supposed to be partly an agent of commerce, but woe for British trade if it depended on our consular system. An Ambassador is, we know, sent 'to lie abroad for the benefit of his country'; the benefits of our Diplomacy have not been conspicuous of late. A British Diplomat, averaged, costs the nation £1,700 a year; a British Consular Agent, £19. Such, it would seem, are the relative values of British diplomacy and British foreign trade in the eyes of the Foreign Office." The difference in the figures is truly remarkable and would be hard to believe, were it not capable of proof. The £19 per man per year is, of course, not all that a British Consular Agent gets, for there is a system of fees to eke out the poor salaries. This system, says Mr. Yoxall, is bad and checks trade; and he instances, in support, a case in which a Consular Agent in South America replied to a Midland firm which had written to him for information: "It

would appear from your letter that you have need of an agent to look after your trade interests in this place, but this Consulate is unable to act in that capacity." No fees would have been payable according to the office scale, and there was consequently no service. The miserable salaries led to a very serious result, that of our Consuls (General 9, of our Consuls 30, and of our Vice-Consuls and Consular Agents about 240, are foreigners. Something like 300 out of the 700 we thus employ abroad are foreigners. The only excuse for this, adds Mr. Yoxall, is that it is "cheap"—£19 a year! But it is not patriotic, naturally. Secrets have been sold on various occasions by these "British" representatives; yet the system goes on.

But not only are these numbers of foreigners employed, who have no right to represent Great Britain, but also the Britons who are appointed are unsuitable. Mr. Yoxall alleges, "Give us business men for British Consuls!" our Chambers of Commerce may cry for the thousandth time, but it is family influence, political ties, relationship to Parliamentary Agents or to clerks in the Foreign Office that determines the choice most often. We do not appoint business men or even train up a special service for consular posts. "Only three of the first nine Consuls on the list 'passed any examination. One of the best 'paid consulates is now held by an officer 'who passed no previous examination and 'had no previous business experience or 'consular service.' More than lack of business knowledge is sometimes alleged. At Odessa the British Consulate-General was removed from the commercial quarter to a suburb near the cricket and tennis grounds, necessitating British captains entering and clearing from the port taking long cab-rides to get business transacted! Again, there are far too few consular representatives. Britain has 47 resident in Germany, Germany has 85 in Britain. There are far too few British representatives in France, only seven in Belgium—and the one Consular agent has been withdrawn from Morocco, effecting a saving of £100.

The indictment is not a light one, as the points which we have given are sufficient to show. The root of the difficulty, Mr. Yoxall says, appears to be in the antique organisation of the Foreign Office, called by one critic "our worst department." The remedy which he proposes is a combination of business and parliament men to get the consular service put on a business footing. He concludes with the words:—"At present, as a commercial agency anyhow, it seems to me very much of an 'elaborate sham. It is only fair to say 'that the fault is more in the system than 'in the individual Consuls, many of whom 'forward admirable reports on local trade. 'But a British Consular system manned by 'British men of business, and ramifying 'everywhere, is the ideal toward which 'one should strive." These sentiments will be heartily echoed by all commercial men who have suffered from the lamentable shortcomings of the present system. But the ideal looks at present very far off indeed from realisation. It is practicable, perhaps, to strive for an insistence on some business knowledge in the British representatives in great commercial centres, and also that such representatives shall not be aliens but British subjects. To obtain these ends no efforts should be spared by those who can make their voices heard.

A scheme is on foot to connect by direct steamship service Port Swettenham and Southern India.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held on the 4th inst. in the Council Chamber. Present:—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, Sir HENRY A. BLAKE, G.C.M.G.
HIS EXCELLENCY Sir W. GASCOIGNE, K.C.M.G. (Commanding the Troops).
Hon. F. H. MAY, C.M.G. (Colonial Secretary).
Hon. Sir HENRY SPENCER BERKELEY, K.T. (Attorney-General).
Hon. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Treasurer).
Hon. Commander R. M. RUMSEY, R.N. (Harbour Master).
Hon. W. CHATHAM (Director of Public Works).
Hon. Dr. F. W. CLARK (Medical Officer of Health).
Hon. Dr. HO KAI, C.M.G.
Hon. WEI A YUK.
Hon. C. S. SHARP.
Hon. C. W. DICKSON.
Hon. G. W. F. PLAYFAIR.
Hon. R. SHEWAN.
Mr. C. CLEMENTI (Acting Clerk of Council).
H. E. Major-General GASCOIGNE took the chair in the temporary absence of H. E. the Governor, who arrived at a later stage in the proceedings.

THE WATER SUPPLY.

Hon. G. W. F. PLAYFAIR put the two questions standing in his name:

1. Would the Director of Public Works give some explanation of the inequalities of the intermittent system with special reference to Queen's Garden and the higher levels of the Peak—why very many houses, which ought to get the full supply for the advertised period, get little or no water, and even that little at a most insufficient pressure?

2. To ask the Director of Public Works why the water accounts for 30th September are not yet out?

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—Sir, in reply to the first question, I beg to lay upon the table reports of inspections made of the districts referred to, which state the causes of the insufficient supply to certain houses and the steps taken with a view to improving it. With regard to the second question, some delay was caused by the introduction of the new Ordinance, which necessitated working out the free allowance to be given in respect of the ratable value of all premises supplied by meter. The inspections for the purpose of ascertaining and reporting on the supply of water under the intermittent system have also absorbed much of the time of the senior officers. The first batch of accounts was sent out on the 2nd December, and the remainder will follow in a few days.

DR. THOMSON AND THE CHINESE COLLEGE OF MEDICINE.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—Sir, some time ago a question was raised in the Finance Committee regarding the duties performed by Dr. Thomson on behalf of the Chinese College of Medicine. I have now, by His Excellency's commands, to lay on the table a letter from the Dean of the College relative to the matter, and to say that the duties performed by Dr. Thomson for the College have in no way interfered with his public duties, and that, in the interests of the College, it is extremely desirable that Dr. Thomson's connection with the institution should not be severed.

PEAK ROAD WATER SUPPLY.

The COLONIAL TREASURER—Sir, regarding the report on the water supply in the Peak Road district laid on the table by the Director of Public Works, the statement as regards the supply to Blue Bungalow is not quite correct.

Hon. G. W. F. PLAYFAIR.—Hear, hear.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—The report, sir, is from an actual inspection, and was given to me by a responsible officer.

The COLONIAL TREASURER.—There is no date given.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—The date is at the end of the report—3rd December, 1902.

FERRY CO. BYE LAWS.

Hon. C. S. SHARP moved the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to authorise the

making of Bye-laws by the "Star" Ferry Company, Limited.

Hon. C. W. DICKSON seconded, and the motion was carried.

WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' PENSION FUND.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Widows' and Orphans' Pensions Fund Amendment Ordinance, 1902 (No. 12 of 1902). He said—This Bill is intended to effect the necessary amendments in the Ordinance referred to. These amendments are made necessary by the decision to adopt a monthly instead of a yearly rate of exchange in the payment of salaries fixed in sterling.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The Council then went into committee on the Bill, which was afterwards read a third time and passed.

RATING ORDINANCE.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to further amend the Rating Ordinance, 1901. He said—In the objects and reasons attached, hon. members will see that the object of this Ordinance is to prevent any question arising as to the scale of rates to be levied in the area between the 600-foot and 700-foot contours in the hill districts.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The Council afterwards went into committee on the Bill, which was read a third time and passed.

CHINESE HOSPITAL ORDINANCE.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Chinese Hospital Incorporation Ordinance, No. 3 of 1870. He said—This Bill was introduced because, in view of the approaching opening of two new hospitals, it is considered necessary to take power to increase the maximum number of members of the permanent board of directors and so strengthen the permanent working committee.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The Council afterwards went into committee on the Bill, which was read a third time and passed.

REPEALING ORDINANCE.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to repeal Ordinance No. 5 of 1902. He said—This Ordinance is introduced, as is stated in the objects and reasons, to repeal No. 5 of 1902. It is expedient, if not necessary, to pass this Ordinance, because though, as appears by the title, Ordinance No. 5 of 1902 intended to repeal Ordinance No. 5 of 1902, and does so by implication, yet there are no specific words of repeal, those words having been omitted by a clerical error not noticed at the time.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The Council afterwards went into committee on the Bill, which was read a third time and passed.

EMPLOYERS AND SERVANTS.

The Council went into Committee on the Bill entitled an Ordinance to Amend the Law relating to Employers and Servants. A few minor amendments were made, and the motion for the third reading was not made.

NATURALISATION OF ALIENS.

The Council went into Committee on the Bill entitled an Ordinance relating to the Naturalisation of Aliens, and there being no amendments, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND BUILDINGS BILL.

The Council went into Committee on the Bill entitled an Ordinance to Consolidate and Amend the Laws Relating to Public Health and Buildings.

The Committee considered in detail Section 6, comprising the definition clauses; after adjustment of the sub-sections, it was approved.

Section 7, relating to the list of authorised architects, was as follows:—The Governor in Council shall prepare and publish by notification in the *Gazette* a list of the names of all such architects engineers and other persons, as he may deem qualified to perform the duties required by this Ordinance to be performed by an authorised architect, and such list shall

include the names of the Director of Public Works and of such other officers of the Public Works Department as the Governor in Council may think fit. The Governor in Council may also, from time to time, add to such list the names of any other persons whom he may deem qualified as aforesaid, and remove from such list any of such names, provided that due notice shall be given to any person whose name it is proposed to remove from such list, and he shall be entitled to be heard by the said Council, either in person or by counsel, before such removal is made. All such alterations shall be notified in the *Gazette*. Such list as altered from time to time shall be deemed to be the list of authorised architects.

Hon. Mr. SHARP asked how this would affect architects at present practising?

H.E. the GOVERNOR said that it was contemplated that such architects would be on the list *ipso facto*. Anyone wishing to become an architect must come before the Committee.

Hon. Mr. SHARP remarked that surely they could not deprive a man who was entitled to practise of the right to do so.

Hon. Dr. CLARK said the section did not prevent him practising but simply granting certificates under the Ordinance.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL added that only such as were authorised would be entitled to give these certificates.

The HARBOUR MASTER asked if a member of the Institute of Architects would not have the right to practise here notwithstanding that he had not been passed by the Board.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL replied that he would be entitled to practise, but would have to get someone else to grant the certificates.

The HARBOUR MASTER put the proposition that the Board of Examiners were to refuse him. H.E. the GOVERNOR said that it was not likely they would refuse a qualified man.

The section was approved.

The Council adjourned till Tuesday next at noon.

THE CORONATION MEDAL.

The Coronation medals ordered from England for presentation to the naval and military Garrison of Hongkong (who were here at the time of the Coronation) and the Police Force arrived by the *Bombay* on Wednesday and will in due course be distributed among those who are to be the recipients. It will be remembered that the question arose whether a souvenir of the Coronation or an entertainment of some kind should be given to the Garrison to commemorate the event, and the former alternative was decided upon as being the general wish of the men of the Garrison. To Messrs. Edmonds & Co., 67, Baker Street, London, was entrusted the task of making the medal, which was to be of bronze and distinctly characteristic of Hongkong. Now that the medal has come to hand, it is not too much to say that it is quite up to the best expectations of the Coronation Committee, does credit to Messrs. Edmonds, and will be prized by the recipients and generally admired. The design is excellently executed. On the obverse are the bust figures of their Majesties the King and Queen in their Coronation robes. The figures are in relief and especially in the case of His Majesty the likeness is very striking. On this side is inscribed "Edward VII, R.I. Alexander R." On the reverse is engraved the Hongkong emblem—a picture of the Peak and the Harbour with a tea-clipper and a junk in the middle distance and an English and a Chinese merchant bargaining over bales of tea on the shore. The inscription here is:—"Hongkong, 1902. Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G., Governor. To commemorate the Coronation of their Majesties the King and Queen." Each metalion, which is about the size of a war-medal, one and a half inches in diameter, is enclosed in a suitable case bearing in gilt letters the inscription "Hongkong, 1902." It should be mentioned that the design from which the medal was struck was prepared here by Mr. E. A. Hewett, the Hon. Secretary of the Coronation Committee, and is after the design of the medal presented to the Jubilee Committee during Sir William Robinson's governorship.

THE CHENGCHOW MASSACRE.

The sum of £10,000 demanded by Sir Ernest Satow from the officials and gentry of that city for the murder of Messrs. Bruce and Lewis, according to a Changsha despatch, has been ordered by Governor Yu Lien-san of Hunan to be paid by the following persons and in the following proportions:—

Wu Chih-chun, ex-prefect of Chengchow	Tls. 25,000
Yen Wu-lin, ex-Major-General Commanding Yi Brigade	25,000
Wan Chan-hsin, ex-district Magistrate of Yuanlinhsien	15,000
Chen Hsi-nien, new district Magistrate of Yuanlinhsien	3,000
Chuang Keng-liang and Chao Yu-tien (jointly)	4,000
Esung Te-shou, Feng Hsiehchun and Chang Yao-kuei (jointly)	6,000
Various other gentry of Chengchow city (jointly)	3,000
Total	Tls. 81,000

which sum approximately equals £10,000. This has been communicated to Sir E. Satow through the British Consul at Hankow, and H.E.'s consent is awaited before being put in operation.

The following despatch also comes from Changsha, capital of Hunan province:—In accordance with the demand of the British Minister at Peking, Lu, the First Captain of the Chengchow garrison, who closed his yamen-gates in the face of the late Mr. Lewis when that unfortunate man was being pursued to the death by the Chengchow mob, was decapitated in Changsha on the 15th instant, on the public execution ground, in the presence of the British Vice-Consul, who had arrived there the day before from Hankow, and a number of civil and military mandarins deputed to be present by the Governor. There was also a large concourse of people who viewed the execution in a quiet and orderly manner. *N.C. Daily News.*

ENQUIRY INTO COLLAPSES OF BUILDINGS.

KOWLOON CITY ROAD.

The official enquiry into the fatal building collapse at 30 and 32, Kowloon City Road on 18th July last was concluded Wednesday afternoon before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, Police Magistrate, and a common jury. Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, Crown Solicitor, appeared on behalf of the Government, whilst Mr. H. W. Looker represented the architects, Messrs. Leigh & Orange, and Mr. C. D. Wilkinson the contractors, the Loong Cheong firm.

The proceedings at the resumed hearing on Thursday last, which we were compelled to omit, were confined to the taking of expert evidence. Mr. F. T. B. Hewitt, who had been called for the Crown and previously examined, was recalled and questioned by Mr. Looker. He explained his experience and qualifications as a building surveyor, and said his present duties consisted of getting out quantities for works to be erected for the War Department, in which he was now employed, as well as of measuring up extensive works in progress. For his services in connection with the present enquiry he had applied for remuneration to the Colonial Government.

To a juror witness replied that the walls which collapsed were built differently from those of the majority of Chinese houses, inasmuch as they had more imposing string courses, which made good bonding more difficult.

Mr. A. H. Hewett, Member of the Institute of Civil Engineers, and assistant manager of the Green Island Cement Company, was called by Mr. Wilkinson. He said he went to Kowloon City Road on the morning following the collapse to form an opinion as to its cause. The mortar and other materials he considered to be good, and he at once set aside the theory that the collapse was due to bad mortar. The houses were better constructed than the average Chinese house.

In answer to Mr. Bowley, he said that Green Island cement was supposed to have been used in the two houses which collapsed, but he had no personal knowledge on the subject. He

examined the mortar of the collapsed houses by sight and touch, and never analysed it. He had no theory which satisfied him as to the cause of collapse, but he thought the driving rain was an important factor in causing it. If the wall had been built of good material and with good workmanship, it would have withstood the rain. For instance, if cement mortar had been used throughout the wall, it would have stood, and a coating of tar would have been an improvement.

Mr. Looker, in addressing the jury, said the first thing they had to do was to come to a clear idea of why they were there. The enquiry was held under the Coroner's Abolition Ordinance, 17 of 1888, and the primary object was to ascertain the cause of the death of the people who were killed in connection with this collapse. If the jury came to the conclusion, after having decided that these people died by reason of the wall falling upon them, that the fall of the wall was contributed to by the criminal negligence of anybody, there was no doubt they might add a rider to that effect to their verdict and it would then be the duty of the Magistrate, if they did so, to commit such person to trial. But he submitted that it was not necessary to find anybody guilty or to pass any opinion at all; they were there to find out what was the cause of death. It was quite a misconception to think they were called there to find somebody responsible, whereas the impression received by his clients and he thought, by anyone reading the report of the opening speech of the Acting Crown Solicitor, was that the chief object of the enquiry was to find out whether anybody was criminally negligent or not. Criminal negligence having been made, he said, the touch stone by which to test the action of every one connected with this case, Mr. Looker went on to quote authorities showing what "criminal negligence" had been laid down to be and what an architect's duties are, dealing also with the questions of the materials used and the superintendence of buildings. Proceeding to review the evidence, Mr. Looker said it had been suggested that the overseer Andersen was not a thoroughly capable man. He contended that having already been with Messrs. Leigh and Orange in that capacity for three years he was as good a man as could be got. In considering why this wall fell the jury had to put away from their minds the collapse of any other wall or house. This wall was built in accordance with the building laws of the Colony. The evidence went to show, indeed, that it was a good deal better built than the majority of Chinese houses, and there was no subsidence of the foundations. They also had it in evidence that the bricks and mortar and the plaster covering the bricks were good. The point of course was—What caused the collapse? Three theories had been put forward to account for this. Mr. Leigh said it was the effect of the wind and rain. Mr. Tooker said it was the effect of the rain water coming off the hill-side soaking into the wall and sapping the foundations. Mr. Chatham said it was because the wall was not thick enough. All these gentlemen said that the wind and rain had something to do with it. He did not know that they went so far as to say the rain and wind were the primary cause but all said it was the rain and wind which combined with other causes to bring it down. With regard to the question of which wall fell first, Mr. Looker argued that the more likely theory was the one put forward by Mr. Leigh—that No. 30 fell first and coming upon No. 32 brought the latter down. Only by that theory could they account for the window shutters of No. 32 being more smashed than those of No. 30. Mr. Haggard's theory that this was caused by the bricks rebounding across the 15 foot lane was less reasonable. Again, the wind was from the W.N.W., so that its whole force must have been blowing on No. 30. This particular house was passed by the P.W.D. as complying with the Building Ordinance, so they must come to the conclusion that it was properly built, of good materials, and built strongly enough. Nothing had been said, he thought, to suggest that if it had not been for the wind and rain this collapse would not have happened. These houses were built by Mr. Leigh, who had had 22 years' experience in building China houses; they were built by one of the best contractors in the Colony; they were

inspected about 24 times by Mr. Crisp, the Government inspector, whose duty it was to see that houses were built in compliance with the Building Ordinance; and they were passed by the P.W.D., which was constituted to provide that the public safety was ensured. The jury would have to decide which of the theories regarding the cause of the collapse was the most probable. The wind and water theory was he submitted, the most probable. In fact it was the only one which fitted in with the 78 or so collapses which occurred during these three months. It was apparent that the extraordinary number of collapses this year must have been due to some more or less common cause. Mr. Leigh, Mr. Chatham and Mr. Tooker all said they thought there must have been some common element. What could it have been? It could only have been one of two things; either wind and water or else something like an earthquake. We know there had been a good many earthquakes in this part of the world of late and possibly we might have had one in Hongkong. But the more probable theory was that the collapses were caused by the extraordinary number of consecutive days of wind and rain which softened the bricks and the plaster over the bricks. The result was that a great many walls became very weak and a good many collapsed. Indeed something or other required to be done to nearly every house as a result of the typhoon and the rain, and they had been told that if there had been a continuance of the severe weather there would have been many more collapses. Against Mr. Tooker's theory that the rain came off the hill-side, penetrated the ground and sapped the foundations of the wall, there was the evidence that the foundations were good. Mr. Chatham did not agree with him and there was no evidence to show that the foundations subsided. That being so, and the other being a good deal of evidence in support of Mr. Leigh's theory, he submitted that it was the correct one. Mr. Chatham said the wall was not strong enough. He (Mr. Looker) asked him why and he said it was because the provisions of the Building Ordinance were defective. Well, of course, if that was so it had nothing to do with the architects or anybody else concerned in the building. It was the duty of the Government to see that walls were built of such and such a thickness and in such a manner as to ensure the safety of the public. This wall had been certified as having been built in such a manner and there was no doubt that it was so. He thought the jury would have no difficulty in coming to the conclusion that if there had not been this excessive rainy season with a rain-fall of 80 inches in three months these 78 collapses would not have happened and this wall would have been standing at the present moment. It was a peculiar thing about this enquiry, Mr. Looker said in conclusion, that no evidence had been called to show what actually was the cause of the collapse.

Mr. Wilkinson, after a preliminary statement with reference to the real object of the enquiry and the authoritative definition of "criminal negligence," said that as the jury were aware he was appearing in this matter on behalf of the contractor. It did not concern him whether there had been any breach of duty by anybody else. The legal duty of the contractor was to erect these houses according to the specifications which had been supplied to him by the architect. When he (Mr. Wilkinson) asked Mr. Leigh—Did the contractor build these houses in accordance with the specifications? Mr. Leigh answered "Yes." There was also the evidence of Andersen, the overseer, who confirmed what Mr. Leigh said and stated that the work was carried out in accordance with the specifications, and further went on to say that the materials used were very good. Then there was the evidence of all the witnesses who were called all of whom stated that so far as they could say the materials used were very good. Until Mr. Browne was called there was no suggestion of any kind that any portion of the materials used was inferior. But having regard to the evidence of the Messrs. Hewett one of whom said the mortar was good and the other very good indeed, he submitted that the jury could very well disregard Mr. Browne's statement that it was inferior. Mr. Browne had no practical experience with regard to mortar, but simply as an analyst. They had

got to take the evidence of practical men and these said it was good. There being therefore no evidence that the material was not good and there being very good evidence that his client carried out the work in accordance with the specifications, he submitted that it would be absolutely impossible for the jury to come to the conclusion that he had been guilty in any way of any neglect.

Mr. Bowley said that before commencing the few remarks he intended to make, he should like to explain to the jury that his position was different from that of his two learned friends; he was there simply to endeavour to assist the coroner and the jury to elucidate the facts and to come to an unbiased and unprejudiced decision thereon. After quoting *Jervis on the Office of Coroners*, Mr. Bowley said the jury had not to try any person for criminal negligence, but had only to bring in a verdict as to the cause of death, to which they could add any rider or recommendation or suggestion they liked. In a case of that kind every individual upon whom any duty lay was individually liable. He could not say, "Someone else has been negligent; and therefore I am not responsible for any such negligence." In criminal law, the law they were dealing with in the present instance, contributory negligence was not recognised at all. If the jury found that there had been negligence on the part of anybody, it was for the magistrate to commit that person to trial, and so all that the jury had to find out was whether a *prima facie* case had been established against anybody. After summarising the facts of the case, the Crown Solicitor said the wall that fell had been built for six months and could not therefore be called a "green" wall; it was in what might be termed its prime. A wall, if had been adduced, set in three or four months in dry weather, and the particular wall in question had had three or four months' dry weather before the rainy season commenced. There were certain responsibilities attached to the erection of a tenement house, and the least of those was that the house should be strong enough to withstand average climatic conditions. The owners in the case had engaged competent and experienced architects, and apparently given them a free hand; the architects put the work into the hands of experienced contractors, who in turn had engaged sub-contractors. Mr. Looker had made a great deal of the fact that the architects in this case visited the works much more frequently than architects did in England, but, Mr. Bowley submitted, the circumstances here were entirely different from what they were in England. There a clerk of works would be employed who would be upon the building the whole of the time, and whose duty it would be to see that the workmanship was good; the architect visited the house occasionally in order to see that it was being built according to the plans, but the clerk of works was responsible for the workmanship. In the case under review there was no clerk of works, but a Norwegian sailor was engaged as overseer, and he had to look after 118 houses at the same time. That would give about 300 walls in process of erection, and the services of one man as overseer were clearly absolutely insufficient. By appointing an overseer to supervise for him, the architect could not evade responsibility, nor could the contractor by the employment of sub-contractors shift responsibility from himself to them, for an expert builder who undertook to do certain work could not transfer his responsibility by sub-contracting. There had been a tendency on the part of what he would call the defence, continued the Crown Solicitor, to throw responsibility on the inspector of buildings, but if that officer had not done his work properly the fact did not excuse anyone from negligence. Again, the Building Ordinance had come in for a good deal of criticism, but the Ordinance simply laid down the minimum dimensions to be employed; there was no restriction against making walls of double thickness if circumstances rendered it necessary. In the collapsed wall the minimum dimensions had been adopted. External walls, from their being exposed to the weather, required more care to be taken with them and in the present case many reasonable precautions which might have been taken were not taken, with the result that the work had been scamped. Mr. Bowley concluded by

saying that he would leave it to the jury to decide whether or not any one was responsible.

Addressing the jury, his Worship said he proposed putting two questions to them—(1) Was the death of the deceased herein the result of criminal negligence? and (2) if yes, what person or persons are guilty of such criminal negligence? Any rider could be added that the jury wished. His Worship then explained the law on criminal negligence, and asked the jury to consider their verdict.

The jury retired, and returned into Court about half-an-hour later, when the foreman read out the finding as follows:—Was the death of the deceased herein the result of criminal negligence?—No. This rendered unnecessary a reply to the second question. The following rider was added:—We are of opinion that, having regard to the area of the wall, its thickness was insufficient.

A juror asked that he and the other two jurors be exempted from serving again for a number of years, and his Worship, who thanked them for their services, promised to forward the application.

THEATRE ROYAL.

"MAGDA."

Fernann Sudermann's *Magda*, which was presented at the Theatre Royal on the 29th ult., is the most exacting piece in some respects which the Waldorf Company have yet put on here. It is a powerfully written play, pregnant with passion and dramatic living interest. In *Magda* Sudermann has taken as his motive the conflict between two natures—father's and daughter's—in which we see but one thing common to both, indomitable pride of will: otherwise they are as the positive and the negative. *Magda* chafes against the cage of her narrow German home with its atmosphere of "tobacco, lavender, and cough-mixture." The routine of the daily sanctionious life of the household wearies her soul beyond endurance. Her high-strung, prideful nature rebels against the martinet authority of her parent and she leaves his roof, taking her life into her two hands to do with it what she may. Colonel Schwartz, an iron personality, closes his door and his heart upon the erring daughter, whose name thenceforth is a forbidden word. Twelve years pass. *Magda* has gone out of their lives. Then one day to the town comes the great operatic singer whose name and fame ring over Europe. She is no other than the lost daughter, come back to catch a glimpse of her old homestead. Her warm womanly nature is touched by all the associations and when at length the old Colonel yields to the tearful solicitations of his family that he should receive his daughter back to his heart, she eagerly embraces the chance thus offered to enter if but for a moment the familiar portals of her father's house. She comes into the sombre family circle like a queen on her brilliant radiance, and the father receives her with tremulous joy and pride. But now that she is there surely she must stay, says her father. *Magda* consents unwillingly to this return to the domination of her parent, but is touched by the pleadings of her sister and Pastor Heffergindt. Not long is she settled in her home till there comes warning of impending tragedy. Among the friends of the household is one Von Keller, now high in the State service. He and *Magda* meet. It is not their first meeting. Their lives had already intercrossed in the outside world. In Von Keller, *Magda* sees the man who had betrayed and deserted her to her fate. In a stormy scene she denounces him, the father of her child, as a liar, a traitor, and a coward, and glories in the triumphant victory she had achieved alone and unaided over the cruel fate to which he had abandoned her. In her pride of heart *Magda* boasts she has risen superior to her sins. But so much of the womanly instinct yet remains, that she steals off at the sound of her father's footstep. Schwartz finds Von Keller all unstrung by the interview, questions him concerning his previous acquaintance with *Magda* and his suspicions aroused by Von Keller's evasive manner. The stern old Puritan proceeds to enquire from *Magda* the history of her past. "Has she been pure body and soul?" "I have been true to myself," says *Magda*. This interview is interrupted, but, later,

Schwartz pursues his unrelenting enquiry. She confesses her relationship with Von Keller and nearly breaks the old man's heart. He gets his pistols to seek out *Magda*'s betrayer, but his palsied arm is unable almost to lift the weapon. Suddenly Von Keller arrives on the scene and offers the only reparation in his power—he will marry *Magda*. The old man eagerly consents and leaves the two together. Then comes the most powerful part in the plot. *Magda* refuses to marry Von Keller unless he acknowledges their child. To this he will not consent. With withering scorn and defiant contempt she spurns him for his treachery. She will remain true to herself. Her prideful, indomitable will challenges earth and heaven. "I am what I am," she says in a climax of passion, "and I can be no other." When the old man learns of her refusal he locks himself in the room with his daughter, determined to make her consent to the marriage which her shame has in his eyes forced *Magda* to accept without condition. The conflict between these two natures comes to a tragic consummation. Schwartz threatens that neither will leave the room alive unless she consents, and *Magda* to save herself from the man she loathes confesses that Von Keller perhaps was not the only man with whom she had sinned. Schwartz in a paroxysm of outraged horror lifts the pistol to shoot her but is struck down dead with apoplexy ere his finger pulls the trigger. So ends a story full of passion and of tragedy.

With regard to the production on Saturday evening it was on the whole satisfactory. There were apparent some of the deficiencies of a first-night performance, but most of these were nothing more. The house was filled to the doors, and the audience gave unmistakable token of the appreciation with which they viewed the drama. Miss Waldorf, Mr. Macgregor, and others were several times called before the curtain.

Miss Waldorf's appearance in the role of *Magda* was the most striking she has yet made in Hongkong. She looked the part to perfection and the manner was excellent in which she depicted the passionate, self-willed woman, with her high courage in her own self lighted up by wayward feminine tenderness. In her impassioned scenes with Von Keller she rose to a height of emotional acting which carried the house away. If one thing was unfortunate it was that Miss Waldorf was not in the best of voice: sometimes in rapidly spoken parts her words were inaudible. Mr. Norval Macgregor filled the role of Schwartz with his usual distinction. It is an exciting part and it was powerfully done. In the last stormy interview with *Magda* his rendition was excellent. Of the others of the *dramatis personae* Mr. St. Clair Bayfield's *Pastor* was the outstanding character: his acting was refined, convincing and full of reserved power. Mr. Wilson Forbes was not so happy in the role of Von Keller as he has appeared in others here, but his never-failing consistency of acting was apparent. Mr. Ernest Macken as *Mar*, Miss Mildred Yorke as the stepmother, and Mrs. Dow-Currier as the aunt were all clever, and Miss Amy Stanley was charming as *Marie*. A special word of praise is due to Mr. Hal Lindsay Campbell for his excellent direction of the orchestra.

"TWELFTH NIGHT."

Miss Waldorf's company is to be congratulated upon being able to produce a Shakespearean comedy with such difficult characters to represent as those of *Twelfth Night*. It is a rare treat to witness such an old masterpiece of humour enacted here, mounted and dressed true to its traditions and produced generally on a first-class scale. It is a harsh comparison, but one expressed by many critics of Miss Waldorf's performance of *Twelfth Night* in different parts of the world, that it is more hilariously funny than a Broadhurst farce. The complaint that Shakespeare is "dry" is quenched at once by this draught of humour. The orgies of Sir Toby and Sir Andrew provide that laughter which rings through the auditorium like a voice of soulful merriment, and no less enjoyable are those serious scenes where the swift and fitful movements of love are interpreted in the most delightful language of the great poet. Excellent acting and appropriate setting characterised Wednesday's production of this comedy in the Theatre Royal, which never

held a more appreciative audience. Miss Janet Waldorf's *Viola* and Mr. Norval Macgregor's *Malvolio* were just such masterpieces as one expected them to be in the hands of an actress and actor so capable, whilst, for the remainder of the cast, Mr. Wilson Forbes, ever enjoyable, fitted well the part of laughter-loving Sir Toby Belch, better, it must be admitted, than did Mr. St. Clair Bayfield that of Sir Andrew Aguecheek. Miss Mildred Yorke has a fine grasp of technique, and made a charming *Olivia*, and, if mention may be made in the same breath of a rich connoisseur and a poor maid servant, the *Maria* of Miss Amy Stanley, whose role was that of attendant to *Olivia*, was also convincing. The other characters were fittingly represented. Mr. William Fichett, who had comparatively little to do, made a great impression with his song "O Mistress Mine," a remark that applies with equal force to the oriental dance and country dances executed gracefully by several ladies of the company.

MACAO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Macao, 30th November.

VISITORS.

The continuance of the glorious weather which marked the beginning of the month has resulted in a large number of visitors to Macao, and the hotels, including the recently opened "Hotel Internacional," have experienced a busy time. The latest arrivals include His Excellency the Governor of Hongkong, Lady Blake and Miss Blake, who have come over for a quiet week-end at the "Boa Vista."

NAVAL NEWS.

The Naval element has been somewhat more conspicuous than usual during the past few weeks, France, England and Portugal having all been represented. The *Arabe* was lying in the Harbour for several days, and was followed by the *Moorhen*, which left on Monday last. The *Dia* is still stationed here, and will probably remain at Macao for some time to come. Universal regret will be felt at the news that an old friend, the *Zaire*, is before long to proceed to India. Her gallant captain and his smart officers have won great and deserved popularity during their long stay, and they will be and all be greatly missed.

THE NEW GOVERNOR.

The date of the arrival of the new Governor seems still to be a matter of some uncertainty, though it will in all probability be shortly before Christmas.

WARREN'S CIRCUS AT MACAO.

Anything of a theatrical nature is all too rare in this otherwise favoured spot, hence the arrival of Warren's Circus from Hongkong created no small stir, and the performances were warmly appreciated by those who were fortunate enough to be able to attend. The house was never a full one, but the audiences were on the whole satisfactory. We hope that this may not be the last company of this nature to pay us a visit. If only a theatrical company would follow the good example set by Warren's Circus and provide us with a good dramatic performance, we feel confident that their efforts would result in anything but failure.

CANTON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 1st December.

THE LATE VICEROY'S REMAINS.

On the 23rd ult. the remains of His Excellency the late Viceroy Tao Mu of the Two Kwang were conveyed back to his native place in Chakiang. Shortly after 10 a.m. while their Excellencies the Acting Viceroy T'ak Sow and the Acting Provincial Governor Li Hing Yui and a large number of officials, civil and military, were awaiting at the government wharf, the coffin arrived, followed by the chief mourners, among whom were the deceased's sons and daughters-in-law. It was placed on board the gunboat *Fuk Po*, and transhipped to the steamship *Sun Fung* to be conveyed to its destination.

ARMS FOR THE REBELS.

Certain Chinese fitted up and manned a boat

looking like a mandarin boat, and shipped on board a large quantity of firearms to supply the rebels of Kwangsi. This when she passed by Wuchow, was seized by the mandarins there; now, no matter what boat passes Wuchow, she is subject to strict search.

A CRAVEN GENERAL.

Lately General Wong Chi-chon was despatched with a battalion of soldiers to Kwangsi; he has issued a notification that whoever captures the rebel chief will get a big reward. The rebel chief knowing this has also issued a proclamation that whoever brings General Wong Chi-chon to the rebel camp will get \$10,000. General Wong was so frightened at this that he had to stop at Wuchow.

A PROPOSED NEW MONOPOLY.

A certain merchant named Cheong Ching In presented a petition to the Provincial Treasurer offering to take a monopoly of taxes upon the prostitutes in the flowerboats and on shore at \$120,000 per annum; for the licenses of such women he would charge \$3 a month, and for those of singing girls \$2. The petition was transmitted to the Acting Prefect Kung to report on. Meantime another merchant also had offered \$400,000 for the same privilege; but I think neither the one nor the other is likely to succeed.

SEARCHING FOR TALENT.

Since His Imperial Majesty Kwang Hsu returned to Peking last year he has been cherishing ideas of reform of the Government; but amongst the ministers at Court there is not one gifted with special ability to bring about any reforms that have been so often talked of. We learn now that His Majesty has ordered a special examination to be held next year at Peking. The candidate must be an official not below the third rank, he must be a man of special ability, and of ripe experience, and if he passes, will be appointed to a high position. This order was sent to the Viceroy and Governors of all the provinces; but to this day they have not been able to find any such person fit for recommendation; so they had recourse to the magistrates and sub-prefects of the cities and towns. The magistrate of the Heungshan district has recommended one Wong Wing, a secretary or writer to the late prefect She, who has been degraded. He is now an editor of the newspaper *Chung Sai Po* of Canton. The man that the magistrate of the Tung Kun district has recommended is a *hulin* named Wan Kan Ku, who is at present doing nothing in his native place. Another recommended by the magistrate Pui King Puk of the Nam Hoi district is Wai Kanyan, the grandson of a certain provincial governor, a young man who has taken no literary honours. The acting Viceroy and the acting provincial Governor have ordered the acting Prefect Kung to hold an examination of these three to see what special qualification each possesses before they be recommended to the Throne to occupy any important positions.

THE MURDER OF MR. EVANS.

The case of the late Mr. Evans, who was wounded by pirates at a short distance from the Tiger forts and who subsequently died in the Canton Hospital, is said to have been settled, the mandarin, civil and military, of that locality near by being held responsible. The Admiral and Commander of the forts, Ho Chenng Ching, is ordered to pay an indemnity of \$12,000 to the widow and children of the deceased, and the Magistrate Jao Tak Hang of the Tung Kun district \$8,000. Lao Tak Hang, on receipt of the order, was very much dissatisfied with it, and prefers to be degraded rather than pay his share of the indemnity.

[FROM ANOTHER CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 2nd December.

THE STATE OF THE CITY.

The city is at present in a somewhat unsettled state, and while thieves are fairly numerous, the fear of them is still greater among the authorities. The gates are closed regularly by 6 o'clock, including the big South Gate, and much inconvenience has been caused, notably to bridal parties. Rice, though cheaper than it was a month ago, is still expensive as compared with previous years; and it is natural that the coolie should suffer, as in Canton the natural conservative tendencies

keep wages from rising, but cannot prevent prices from doing so.

There have been numerous robberies in all parts of the city; and one of the last cases was that of a man named Chau, who is, I believe, a Hongkong merchant, and who had over \$1,000 stolen from his house in the western suburb on Thursday last. A state of unrest and an abundance of robberies of course bring numerous executions, strangulations, and confinements in cage, and it is a very unfortunate chance that the place considered most suitable for the two latter punishments is the wharf near the Custom House.

NEW MILITARY SCHOOL AT WHAMPOA.

On Monday the Governor went down to Whampoa to open the new Military School, for which attempts are being made to provide an up-to-date equipment, and lately a large supply of arms and fittings has arrived from Japan. On Friday another fresh departure took place in the reception by the Tartar General of those graduates who desire to become teachers in local Government schools. In future they are not to be appointed haphazard, but are to go to Peking and undergo a course of instruction for four years, and then return to Canton to undertake their duties. On this occasion only five presented themselves; they duly gave particulars of their family and qualifications, and proceed to Peking for their course of study. Each one is to receive \$200 for his passage, and \$30 a month during his stay at Peking.

SHAMEN AMUSEMENTS.

On Shamen the winter gaieties are once more in full swing. To-morrow there is a bazaar which has been organised in aid of the Wesleyan School; energetic preparations have been made for it, and it should be a great success.

AMOI.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Amoy, 1st December.

SOCIAL EVENTS.

We have had an unusually festive fortnight. On the 19th ult. the *Wilmington's* crew gave a variety entertainment in the Club Theatre. The invitations were issued most liberally, nobody being left out, which showed much tact on the *Wilmington's* part. The minstrels were very good and the cake-walk provoked much laughter. It was midnight when the band struck up "The Star Spangled Banner" and brought a pleasant evening to a close.

Admiral Ijima, C.B., arrived in the *Asama* accompanied by the *Tokasago*, and was entertained by Mr. Uyeno at the Japanese consulate. The Admiral's band was present, and it was quite a novelty to hear it play both Eastern and Western airs.

On the 27th ult. the U.S. men-of-war in port celebrated Thanksgiving Day most loyally. Admiral Evans with his Captain and officers entertained their visitors on board the *Kentucky*. They had sports and regatta; H.M.S. *Goliath's* crew also competing.

S. ANDREW'S BALL.

On Friday, the 28th ult., the Scotsmen of Amoy celebrated S. Andrew's Day by giving a ball in the Club Theatre. It will always be remembered as one of the finest balls in Amoy. Having so many naval visitors, the attendance was much larger than usual at these functions; and the decorations were unsurpassed. The stage was converted into a cosy drawing-room, and the verandahs were closed in with flags and plants. During supper the Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. McArthur, read out two telegrams, one from "the Brither Scots of Hongkong" and the other from "Sandy Cumming of Swatow"; both of them being received with much applause. The band of the *Kentucky* was in attendance, and dancing was kept up till the wee sma' hours. The Committee were untiring in their efforts to make their guests comfortable, and much praise is due to them all for the success of the evening.

NAVAL.

The men-of-war in harbour are:—U.S.S.S. *Monterey*, *Wilmington*, *Vicksburg*, *Yorktown*, *New Orleans*, *Monadnock*, *Helena*, *Kentucky*, and H.M.S.S. *Goliath* and *Rambler*. Some of the U.S. fleet are leaving this week.

SWATOW.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Swatow, 2nd December.

THE CHINESE TELEGRAPH ADMINISTRATION.

The local office has issued the following notification:—"We beg to inform the public that a new manager having been appointed to take office in this port, all delays and irregularities that were formerly are now removed. The various lines have now been repaired and strictly attended to, as shown in the fact that communications have since been greatly facilitated; all messages are transmitted immediately upon receipt and never to be kept back. The new manager has also succeeded in his position to Director Sheng Kungpao deputy, an European engineer to effect a thorough repair and put the lines in the best possible condition thereby to require still greater regularity in transmission of messages in future."

Disregarding the peculiar wording and style of the notice it will be seen from the above that my letter drawing attention to the bad state of the telegraph lines, &c., has had the desired effect.

A FIRE.

A small fire, caused by the upsetting of burning oil, broke out in the Presbyterian Mission a few days ago, but was soon extinguished. The extent of the damage done was slight.

NORTHERN NOTES.

The following items are from the *P. & T. Times* down to the 19th ult.:—

It is stated that Funghuangcheng, at the mouth of the Yalu River, is to be opened to foreign trade.

The temples in Chibbi opened by Imperial order are to be left intact, but the rest are to be converted into schools.

An inquest was held at Tientsin on the 27th on the body of Alexander Thompson, the verdict being that he died of hemorrhage to the brain caused by excessive alcoholism.

A correspondent sends our contemporary the following account of the Tongshan Pit accident:—"I grieve to state that a terrible accident has occurred at the north-west shaft of the Mining Company's works. As far as we can understand the cause was a pit fire, and it is assumed that Mr. Baxter, who is one of the dead, had either been trying to dam the fire or to save the Chinese. Mr. Baxter was a young Scotchman, a native of Lanarkshire, who rejoined us from home last February; he was as popular as he was highly esteemed on personal account. Six Chinese are at present known to be killed, but it is feared there will yet be more found dead. The accident occurred during the night."

CORRESPONDENCE.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.

SOME THEATRE NUISANCES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 2nd December.

SIR,—I would like to call your attention to a nuisance which happens at every performance in the theatre of Hongkong. It is a habit with some people to be always late, and to the annoyance of everyone in the vicinity and often to the whole theatre, it is their custom to draw everyone's attention from the play by shuffling about for their seats, even though there are a quantity of unoccupied seats immediately at hand in which they could sit until a more favourable opportunity should arise for them to occupy their own. Last evening, also, many of the finest passages were simply rendered inaudible owing to the unmitigated nuisance of the "inter-act tramp." Particularly noticeable was this in the case of three or four gentlemen, who habitually rose with each fall of the curtain—probably to make more enquiries concerning that proverbial "dog"—but who lacked the good taste to return before the rise of the curtain, or even to be so considerate as to enter their seats quietly. By the noise made, one would have thought they had hoofs instead of feet.

Another circumstance which draws upon one's pity is illustrated by the following. In the very pretty scene where *Magda* meets the distinguished visitors, the stage lights suddenly went out, and really one of the above-mentioned offenders almost curled himself up into a ball of laughter! Truly, as the circumstance would testify, it must have been a terrific and a most stupendous joke, and one which none but the intellect of the sail gentleman perceived! Truly, "home keeping youths have ever homely wits." How fortunate it is to be old, when laughter is less spontaneous.

The *raisonné* of playgoing is surely to see and to note the whole play, and not to be disturbed by a hundred preventable annoyances that one has to tolerate outside the theatre.—Yours, etc.,

A STUDENT AND LOVER OF THE PLAY.

SAMPANS WANTED.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 2nd December.

SIR,—May I, through the medium of your widely circulated paper both in the Fleet and elsewhere, ask if it is possible for something to be done so that we, the men in H. M. Fleet, can obtain sampans after sunset without waiting fifteen, twenty, and thirty minutes both at Murray Pier and at the Naval Canteen steps. To get aboard his vessel a man has to be at either pier at 10:30, otherwise he cannot depend on reaching his ship by 11 o'clock. Only last evening, I and another waited fifteen minutes on Murray Pier; plenty of sampans were there too, but they did not care to come, and it was exactly another fifteen minutes before we got to our ship, which I might mention is quite close to the Naval Yard. Hoping an abler writer than myself will take the matter up.—Yours, etc.,

V.

THE RIDER-MAIN DANGER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 3rd December.

SIR,—No subject of vital interest to the Colony has roused more attention during the last year or two than the water supply. Columns have been written on it, gentlemen have loudly declaimed what they would do if their fellow-townsmen would only vote them into the Legislative Council. Honourable members have repeatedly asked vexatious and trifling questions, but with it all we have got no "forwarder" than if the Government had been left alone. Now, however, there appears to be a battle impending which will tax the energy and ability of every honest man amongst them. In all that has been said or written, to attempt, so far as I am aware, has been made to point out the dangers of the rider-main scheme which seems likely to be forced upon us. Rider-main is a good word and seems to have been lugged into disguise the real issue; which is, first, unchecked water to the Chinese. The system, briefly, consists of two auxiliary mains, one on each side of the principal mains throughout the town. Its merits are that the present mains can remain full at all times, to be available in case of fire, and that it renders resort to the intermittent system more easy. It is advocated in the interests of the owners of Chinese tenements, whose tenants demand water without metering. That is the crux of the whole affair; it goes without saying that the system adds not a drop to the reservoirs.

Some years ago, on the completion of the Tytam reservoir, the Chinese property-owners raised the cry for unrestricted water, and the Government, most deplorably weak-kneed in this respect, gave in to them. The Chinese had never known what it was to have water in street hydrants in their own cities; in their wildest dreams they had never imagined such a thing as fragrant and filtered waters murmuring through their houses; but when the possibility was pointed out to them they were willing to pay a little more rent, and in an evil hour the Government gave in. In a few years the demand began to overtake the supply and the result was brought home pretty forcibly to us last season, and now this.

As I have said, the rider-main system will simplify the application of the intermittent supply, and we will find that intermittence has come to stay; it will be always with us. It certainly sounds very reassuring to be told that in a year or two we will have a reservoir at Tytam Tank capable of holding twelve hundred million gallons, but how about the years of scant or even normal rainfall, when Tytam itself scarcely fills? Increase your reservoir capacity if you will by twelve hundred million gallons, but you cannot increase your catchment area in anything like proportion; and if this rider-main system is carried out Hongkong will soon be known throughout the East as the town of the six months' water supply. That does not appear to be a cheerful prospect for investors.

In addition to this evil there will be the tearing up of the entire town, and when once this is begun when will it be finished? We see how long it takes the P.W.D. to put through small jobs; how many years will it take to complete this gigantic scheme, and how about the pestilence which seems likely to follow this sweeping disruption of the streets, to say nothing of the block and congestion of traffic?

The simple and effective way to guarantee full mains, and the only way, is to prevent Chinese waste. Give them the choice between meter and hydrant, as originally contemplated; in other words treat them exactly as Europeans are treated, and the mains will be always full and there will be no short supply for half the year. If the Government permits this scheme to go through it seems a pity that the Governor (provided he is the responsible party) should not stop here and enjoy the effects of it; but if he doesn't stop he will have the satisfaction of being long remembered in Hongkong, for the people will curse his memory, as the Kaiser would put it, for a thousand years. As to the bland and Honourable non-officials who favour it, it will take something more to embarrass them.—Yours, etc.,

AQUARIUS.

AN INCIDENT AT THE S. ANDREW'S BALL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 3rd December.

SIR,—Kindly allow me through the medium of your columns to congratulate the lady who advertised in your paper of yesterday the loss of a sapphire bracelet at the S. Andrew's Ball, not on the recovery of the bracelet, but on the recovery of her commonsense. I also take the opportunity of informing her that from experience gained by attending public balls, etc., in the Colony consecutively for the past nine years, I understand the usual course pursued by a person finding anything at such a function, or one losing anything, is to immediately inform one of the officials of the Committee of the fact, and not to rudely accost and examine an innocent person who by chance may be wearing an article similar to that which is lost.—Yours, etc.,

W. J. TERRILL.

Care of Punchard, Lowther & Co.

THE HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK CO.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 3rd December.

SIR,—In your report of the meeting of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Limited, held on the 18th ult. it is said that the three months' adjournment from the 18th August last was settled solely by our advice and suggestion and was not an idea originated by any of the Directors themselves. As we only advised upon the legality of the adjournment, and neither originated the idea thereof nor suggested its adoption, we shall be obliged by your inserting this letter, which circumstances have prevented our sending earlier, in your next issue and also in the next issue of the *Hongkong Weekly Press*. We may add that we are informed that the statement referred to in the report was due to a misunderstanding.—Yours, etc.,

DEACON & HASTINGS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 4th December.

SIR,—The letter which appeared in your issue of to-day over the signature of Messrs. Deacon and Hastings has created consternation among at least the majority of the shareholders of the Dock Co. It is well that the public should be reminded of the exact facts. At the meeting of the 18th ult. the Chairman, Mr. D. E. Brown, reading from a paper in his hand, declared to the meeting that there was one point he wished to refer to, and proceeded to say that that point was the reason for holding that meeting at such a long interval after the original one. "The interval of three months was settled solely by the advice and suggestion of the Company's solicitors, and was not at all, as seems to be the impression among shareholders an idea originated by any of the directors themselves."

The solicitors of the Company are Messrs. Deacon and Hastings, and they now write to say that "they neither originated the idea thereof nor suggested its adoption." They merely advised upon the legality of the adjournment. It is plain that their advice was asked, and they gave it. Many a shareholder who heard the Chairman's remarks at that meeting suspected that such was the case, but gave Mr. D. E. Brown credit for accuracy and accepted his explanation. Now what can he have to say? Is it possible there could have been any misunderstanding on such a point? Is it the business of solicitors to suggest or originate such an idea? There has been a lot of correspondence in our local journals about some classes of directors and their ways, and this latest episode is a valuable illustration. The shareholders deliberate and express wish, carried in due form, was put in abeyance for three months for no other reason, as Mr. D. E. Brown took care to tell them, than that the Company's solicitors suggested that course to the Board, and now it turns out such a suggestion was never made!

Another thought has now arisen in the minds of shareholders. At the meeting on the 18th August this same Chairman concluded his speech with the following remarks, which, though suppressed in the Company's official report, duly appeared in that of one of our local journals. He said:—"I hope, gentlemen, that under the circumstances and with the sound business reasons before you, and in which I can tell you our bankers concur, as they also do in the dividend that we recommend," &c., &c. In the face of what has just been brought to light, Mr. D. E. Brown would surely excuse the shareholders if they ask now: Is this insinuation a fact, or is it another misunderstanding between him and the Co's bankers?—Yours, etc.,

REFORM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 4th November.

SIR,—In a few days we shall be called upon to decide whether the new dock scheme is to be carried through or not. Before the decision becomes irrevocable I would like to say a few words to my brother shareholders.

One of your contemporaries published the other evening a long letter from a "Local Engineer" giving a very full and, I must say, more rosy view of the scheme than I had been accustomed to regard it, and pointing out how the present No. 1 Dock was opposed by shortsighted shareholders fourteen years ago. I had intended arguing some of his points, but last evening's paper contains a letter from "Investor" which covers exactly the same ground and with whose opinions I cordially agree except on one or two particulars. Up to three years ago I myself was strongly in favour of the construction of a new dock. The present No. 1 Dock is admittedly the most useful of the series, and if only to relieve it of the congestion of work another similar dock was required, and while about it, it should be made large enough to take in any vessel afloat; the trade of China is as yet very small compared with a similar length of seaboard in Europe or America with an equally dense population behind it, and Hongkong is very far from having reached its zenith. It is therefore essential that the docking accommodation should not only keep pace but be in advance of the growing needs of the port. I disagree with "Investor's" opinion re

the steam hammer: an establishment of the importance of the H. & W. Dock Co. should be capable of making a new shaft for any vessel which may require it; failures of shafts are the most frequent of all accidents to machinery afloat, and although most vessels carry spare ones there is still scope enough with those who don't, and other heavy forgings in general.

That the time is unpropitious to join is not; it was not the fault of the directors that Government blocked the scheme some years ago; perhaps the Dock Co. expected too much, but the powers that were decidedly did not err on the side of liberality: the delay in itself was exasperating. In this respect our local Government is simply incomprehensible: requests for land to be put up to auction are shelved for years until all arrangements for its acquisition by its would-be lessee fall through, and have to be recommenced when the tardy reply is given, and then the conditions attached are found to be so onerous, the upset price and Crown rent so high, and generally the squeezes exacted so much in excess of reason, that purchasers are deterred from carrying out schemes which would result in the Colony's benefit. Our local Government seems to be under the impression that industrial concerns should be discouraged: forgetting their value in adding to the prosperity of the Colony, and also the fact that trade is as much dependant upon the workshops as upon the hongs. We have to make our new ventures pay in spite of official obstruction moreover they must pay in our own lifetime. We are accused of being speculators, and taunted with the soubriquet of Shylock, but it must be remembered that most of us are but sojourners here, have no periodical leave on half-pay at a 4s. dollar, no pension to look forward to, and the dollar diminishing to microscopic proportions.

It is hinted that certain concessions have been made by the Government. If these "concessions" enable us to proceed with the scheme it will be to the ultimate benefit of the Colony and the Empire. The expenditure must be spread over a sufficient number of years so as to ensure that dividends will not be reduced; and we must wait and see what terms we will get before coming to a final conclusion.

The number of very large vessels frequenting the port will increase but slowly, for the following reasons:—

1. The trans-Pacific trade will not justify their construction. There is but one large town on the Northern Pacific seaboard and a comparatively sparse population in the hinterland; consequently little business passenger traffic. Chinese are practically debarred, so little steamer traffic. Tourist traffic a negligible quantity.

2. No heavy weight cargo, and no cattle trade, requiring enormous vessels of the *Beric* type.

3. China harbours are mostly shallow, and the Suez Canal Co. only guarantees 27 feet depth of water.

4. If the Americans put on a few more ships of the *Korea* class, they will take care that the docking is done at San Francisco where they have a dock under construction 750 feet long by 103 feet wide. Such vessels as the above cannot profitably be run without Government subsidy, so will not multiply rapidly.

And finally B. and S.'s new dock will take all such for the first ten years after completion. —Yours, etc.,

"DOCK ER."

According to the *Osaka Mainichi*, the production of gold in Formosa continues to increase rapidly. The mines now working are confined to a small section of the district north of Kelung. When gold was first purchased by the Bank of Formosa its value was estimated at 800,000 yen a year. It increased to 1,000,000 and then to 1,500,000 yen in a very short space of time. When the bank started buying gold at first no small amount was being exported abroad by the natives. By paying the highest possible price, however, the Bank has been the means of entirely checking this indiscriminate exportation. A gold field has existed from ancient times at Southern Formosa and the lease was recently obtained by Mr. Yamashita, but operations have not yet commenced. It is believed that a very promising future is before the gold mining industry of Formosa.

SUPREME COURT.

Tuesday, 2nd December.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR W. MEIGH
(GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE)).

THE "TANSAN" DISPUTE.

This was a cross-summons arising out of an application by J. Clifford Wilkinson, Kobe, Japan, for an order for an *ex parte* injunction against Ea Shu & Co., Hongkong, agents for Ishimichi & Co., Kobe, Japan, selling or dealing in mineral waters under the designation "tansan."

Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., barrister-at-law, appeared for the plaintiff (instructed by Mr. C. D. Wilkinson of Messrs. Wilkinson & Grist, solicitors); and Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister-at-law, appeared for Ea Shu & Co., the defendants (instructed by Mr. F. B. Deacon of Messrs. Deacon & Hastings, solicitors).

Mr. Slade made a motion that the order for an *ex parte* injunction previously obtained in that Court be set aside on the grounds of misrepresentation, the suppression of material facts. That order restrained the defendants from selling or dealing in mineral waters under the designation of "tansan" until the motion for the injunction was heard. The material statement on which that order was made was the affidavit of Mr. R. H. B. Mitchell of Messrs. Price & Co. in which he swore that the trade-mark of the plaintiff which appeared on the bottle produced was registered in this Colony on 23rd March, 1900; he stated also that the defendant firm had only recently started selling this water described as "tansan" and were selling it cheaper than the plaintiffs. Now, investigation had been made and it transpired that no such trade-mark was registered in this Colony and that the trade-mark registered was entirely different in every essential material excepting the word "tansan," which was written, too, in a different way. There they had a most material misrepresentation of the actual fact. Mr. Mitchell was not the plaintiff. The plaintiff was Mr. Clifford Wilkinson, and he knew perfectly well what trade-mark was registered, and Mr. Mitchell was not the only agent of the plaintiff in this Colony. Mr. Mitchell might not know what trade-mark was registered, but the solicitors of the plaintiffs had not attempted to say that they did not know. He would go further and say that on that label which had been sworn as being registered in March, 1900, there was a direct untrue statement by the plaintiff himself, namely, the label bore the words "registered trade-mark." It was this false statement of fact which had induced or did something towards inducing his Lordship to make the restraining order.

Mr. Pollock—I am under the impression that it has been registered in England.

Mr. Slade replied that if that was the position of the plaintiff it should have been stated previously. There was no evidence on the point.

His Lordship remarked that the only question appeared to be the use of the word "tansan." When the motion was before him he assumed that "tansan" was a special name not common to the trade, but the affidavits on the other side seemed to show that this description of this kind of article was common to the trade.

Mr. Slade stated that as a matter of fact an action had been brought by Mr. Clifford Wilkinson in Japan upon the use of this very word "tansan," and it had been there decided that "tansan" was a common word and therefore could not be the subject of a trade-mark.

His Lordship—Practically like soda water?

Mr. Slade—Yes. This is a slightly mineral effervescent water: the whole of the water obtained from these springs is called "tansan."

His Lordship—Has the plaintiff himself authorised this action: he must have known of the decision given in Japan?

Mr. Pollock—Yes, my lord.

Mr. Slade went on to say that that undoubtedly was so. The settlement of the suit in Japan must have been known to the plaintiff's agents in Hongkong. The trade-mark on which this suit was brought was essentially different in every respect excepting the mere word "tansan"

from the other. One was yellow and one blue. It had been held in Japan that the plaintiff could not have any protection for the use of the word "tansan," as it was a word in common use, as one might say "soda water," or "appollinaris." That fact was within the knowledge of the plaintiffs and was not revealed to his Lordship on the application for the *ex parte* injunction. In not mentioning this material fact the plaintiff was guilty of a serious error of judgment.

His Lordship remarked that when the application for this order was submitted to him, he specially asked whether the plaintiff claimed exclusive right to the use of the word "tansan," because he had some doubt in his own mind on the point, but he was told that they claimed a monopoly in that word and granted the injunction accordingly. That statement did not now appear to be right.

Mr. Slade said there had been legal proceedings in Japan on the point and it had been so decided.

His Lordship added that of course that was in a foreign country and was not binding upon him. At the same time it was in Japan where the word "tansan" was used, and where they were certainly in a position to say whether it was or was not in common use.

Mr. Pollock, in addressing the Court, admitted that a reprehensible mistake had been made in the affidavit, but contended that it was not done with the object of breaking faith with the Court. He went on to state that even if it were to be established on proof that the word "tansan" was a common generic name for mineral water in Japan he would still have gone on with the motion for restraint, on the ground that the label in use now by the defendant was a colourable imitation of that registered by the plaintiff, who had been using the label referred to for two years down here, whereas the other side had just started the use of the label complained of. With regard to the name "tansan," they hoped to be able to prove that the plaintiff invented it and adopted it as the designation of the water from his mineral spring; that the water coming from that spring obtained a certain reputation in the market; and that these other people, trying to take advantage of the reputation which "tansan" had acquired in the market—of course there were plenty of mineral springs in Japan—said, "We will call this 'tansan'."

His Lordship—But the Japanese courts held that "tansan" is a common word; though that is not of course binding upon me.

Mr. Pollock said that was irrelevant to the matter before the Court. They had no knowledge of the case as it was heard in the Japanese courts. They did not know the facts, the pleadings or the procedure at all. This Court would have to try the case *de novo*, to consider whether "tansan" ought to have been on the register at all and whether "tansan" had become such a word of common use, like "soda water" or "whisky" that really it had ceased to denote the plaintiff's ownership. These matters would have to be gone into by and-by, and he submitted that the mere fact that an extract was put in by the other side from the judgment of a Japanese court, without their being acquainted with the facts laid before the Court or the arguments or the way in which the plaintiff's case was shaken, was practically irrelevant. This Court would also have to consider this point—the use of the word "tansan" in this Colony. It was possible that while in Japan the word might have become more or less in common use so as to indicate to persons purchasing tansan in Japan a general generic term for mineral water, in Hongkong they might be entitled to protection. The question would be, How does this tansan stand in Hongkong? what reputation has it got? It would not be whether there were hundreds or thousands of people in Japan fond of drinking mineral water labelled "tansan," but what reputation the waters had in Hongkong and what individual or firm acquired that reputation for tansan in Hongkong. He would submit that so far as the evidence before the Court went it was all one way, namely, that it was the plaintiff in this case, Mr. Clifford Wilkinson, who had acquired in Hongkong a reputation for tansan.

His Lordship, commenting upon the similarity of the labels, said that if it was shown that

the defendants had changed their yellow trademark for the later one more nearly resembling that of the plaintiff with the purpose of coming down and capturing the Hongkong market he would be very much inclined to stop it.

Mr. Pollock admitted that without evidence it certainly looked suspicious. He would suggest that the interim injunction be continued until the particulars could be got down from Japan. They had at any rate established a *prima facie* case for protection.

His Lordship, in giving judgment, said he thought it was his duty to discharge the interim injunction. He discharged it with costs. He did not say nor did he think that the gentleman who made the affidavit intended in any way to deceive the Court, but he wished to impress upon those who made affidavits in that Court that if they swore to a thing it was really essential that they should not swear to it unless they knew it to be so. If they were swearing simply upon information given by somebody else they should say, "I have been informed so-and-so and believe that so-and-so is the case." There was no doubt about it that the Court was deceived, quite unintentionally, he admitted, as to the precise nature of the trade-mark registered here. It was sworn that a certain label was registered. As a matter of fact it was not registered, but one very similar to it was. That mistake had now been corrected. Under the circumstances he must find that the Court had not the full information given to it when it was asked to make an *ex parte* injunction, and therefore he must discharge the order with costs. He did not think there was any question of damages, as the order had been in force for only a few days. With regard to the second part of the question, that the injunction be continued until the judgment, he did not know whether Mr. Pollock wished to go into that further.

Mr. Pollock said he was willing to a continuation, subject to an undertaking for damages.

Mr. Slade stated that he might be able to save the time of the Court if he were allowed to make a statement. The defendants in the case were merely agents who did not want to run any risks. As soon as this registered trademark had been brought to their notice they recognised that they were sailing rather near the wind, and on behalf of the defendants he was willing to submit to an injunction restraining them from using this trademark. They did not think that it was altogether fair. They, however, were only agents and had these things sent down to them. What they were willing to fight was the exclusive use of the word "tansan." They held they were entitled to sell mineral water, calling it tansan, as long as they used labels which were not too nearly like the registered trademark in the Colony.

Mr. Pollock intimated his willingness to agree to this course, without prejudice to his claim of the exclusive right to the use of the word "tansan."

His Lordship said he would not have been inclined to grant an injunction on the word "tansan" after hearing what the judgment was in Japan. He would grant a continuation of the interim injunction on the lines suggested, which of course would not preclude the plaintiff at the trial from establishing his right to the exclusive use of the word "tansan." The order was granted accordingly.

The Court adjourned.

At the general meeting of the Hongkong Odd Volume Society which was held recently, His Excellency the Governor was re-elected President of the Society. We understand that this Society proposes to give a series of lectures during the coming winter. The opening meeting will be held at the City Hall, on Monday, the 15th inst. when Dr. J. C. Thomson will lecture on "Malaria and its Relation to the Mosquito," with naked eye and microscopic demonstrations of mosquito and the parasite of malaria. His Excellency the Governor has kindly consented to take the chair on that occasion. This subject is one which should appeal to every resident in the tropics, and no doubt the Hongkong public will be glad of the opportunity of receiving information with reference to the latest researches on the question of malaria in connection with mosquitoes. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., has resumed the post of Hon. Secretary.

CRICKET.

H.K.C.C. v. THE GARRISON.

This match was played on the Club ground on the 29th ult. and, after an interesting game, resulted in a draw, very much in favour of the Club. The usual hour was wasted at the start, thanks to the late arrival of many of the players, otherwise the game would certainly have been brought to a definite conclusion. It seems utterly hopeless to expect punctuality of some people, but it is certainly time that the Committee took some steps to remedy the evil, as matters seem to be getting worse every week. In this instance it was the soldiers who were chiefly to blame—most of the Club team being on the ground in fairly good time—and even when a start was eventually made no less than five substitutes had to be found to take the places of the laggards. At least three of the best matches this season have been drawn through this cause, and cricket will certainly lose much of its popularity if this sort of thing is allowed to continue. With his usual luck, Ward won the toss and sent in Maitland and Garde to face the bowling of Fawcett and Clark. When he had made 18 out of 22, Maitland, who appeared to be getting well set, was badly run out by Garde. Moore, who followed, soon settled down to play good cricket and Garde seemed determined to atone for his mistake and looked like making a score. With the total at 53, however, he was bowled, having made his 20 in excellent style. Allenby took his place, and he and Moore stayed in until the tiffin bell rang, when the total was 60. Up to this time the bowling had been good and the scoring was consequently slower than usual. After tiffin, however, the batsmen had matters pretty much their own way and scored very freely. Moore especially hit very hard, and though he gave one or two difficult chances, his innings was an excellent one in every way. Allenby played a sound, careful innings, severely punishing the loose balls but running no risks with the good ones; so far as could be seen he gave no chance at all. With the score at 212 and his own total within 4 of the coveted century, Moore was out to a brilliant catch by Simmons. Smith bowled a full pitch to leg which Moore appeared to get well hold of; the ball, however, went straight and hard to Simmons at short leg, who brought off quite a remarkable catch. With only an hour and forty-five minutes left for play, Ward promptly declared the innings closed, the score being 212 for three wickets. The fielding of the Garrison was good on the whole and Simmons and Heath were especially noticeable. The bowling was good at first but the splendid stand made by Moore and Allenby had a decidedly demoralising effect upon it and, of course, no one had much of an analysis. The Garrison commenced batting at 3.25 with Smith and Rimington, and Mackenzie and Lambie started the bowling. Smith hit a 6 and a 4 and was then out l.b.w. to Lambie. Rimington played well, but after nearly running out Heath on two occasions, eventually succeeded in doing so, thanks to an excellent piece of fielding on the part of Turner, who threw the wicket down from cover point. When he had made 21, Rimington was caught by Ward at the second attempt, the fieldsman falling in the effort. Fawcett, who had been batting excellently, was now joined by Radcliffe and between them they added 73 runs to the score. Fawcett hit hard and well, his drives being especially good and his 44 contained two 6's and six 4's. He was eventually smartly caught at the wicket with the total at 111. Radcliffe continued to play careful cricket and refused to be got out, though at one time he gave an easy chance of stumping to that usually safe "keeper," Garde. His 34 was a sound, steady innings, invaluable to his side as it practically saved them from defeat. None of the other batsmen greatly distinguished themselves, though Boyd kept up his wicket at a critical stage of the game. With the total at 137 for 8 wickets, the bell rang and the match as stated above, thus ended in a draw, greatly in favour of the Club. It was a treat to see such an improvement on the last two or three matches in the fielding of the Club, and where all were good perhaps Turner and Moore were

the pick. The bowling was fair but no one came out with much of an average, though Powell at the end took 2 wickets for 6 runs, Toulmin bowled very steadily and well but did not have the best of luck. Altogether the match was a very interesting one, and from a cricket point of view quite the best that has been played this season, the only unsatisfactory feature of it being the aforementioned late start. The following are the scores and analyses:—

H.K.C.C.	
R. B. Garde, R.N., b Clark	20
F. Maitland, run out	18
G. Moore, R.N., c Le Breton Simmons, b Smith	96
1st M. C. Allenby, R.N., not out	68
W. C. D. Turner	
1st Toulmin, R.M.L.I.	
A. G. Ward (capt)	
A. Mackenzie	did not bat
S. Powell	
1st Mahon, R.N.	
P. T. Lambie	
Extras	10

Total (innings declared) 212

THE GARRISON.

1st Smith, R.A., l.b.w., b Lambie	11
1st Rimington, S.F., c Ward, b Mackenzie	21
1st Heath, 10th Bombay, run out	67
Capt. Fawcett, R.A., c Garde, b Toulmin	41
Capt. Radcliffe, R.E., b Allenby	34
1st Hodgson, S.F., c Garde, b Allenby	9
1st Boyd, R.A., b Powell	13
Major S. F. Clark, R.A.M.C., not out	9
Capt. Ferrier, A.P.D., c Toulmin, b Powell	6
Capt. Tulloch, R.A., not out	2
Extras	6

Total (nine wickets) 137

Major Le Breton Simmons, R.E., did not bat.

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

H.K.C.C.		O.	M.	R.	W.
Fawcett		17.2	2	71	1
Clark		23	3	63	1
Rimington		11	3	24	
Hodgson		5		15	
Heath		4		20	
Smith		2.3		9	1

THE GARRISON.

H.K.C.C.		O.	M.	R.	W.
Mackenzie		9	3	24	1
Lambie		8	2	37	1
Toulmin		8	3	24	1
Mahon		4		24	1
Allenby		7	2	16	2
Powell		4	1	6	2

CRAIGENGOWER C.C. v. H.M.S. "TAMAR."

The return match between the above was played at Happy Valley on the 29th ult. and ended in favour of Craigengower by 56 runs. Appended are the scores and analyses:—

H.M.S. "TAMAR."

1st Stansbury, b Brown	1
Mr. Baggin, c R. C. Witchell, b Pestonji	14
Mr. E. Crabtree, b Pestonji	1
Mr. S. A. Coopers, c Stuart, b Brown	0
Mr. C. A. Parker, b Brown	7
Dr. W. L. Martin, b Pestonji	0
Rev. E. H. Good, c Lammert, b Pestonji	1
1st A. C. Butt, c Lammert, b Brown	0
Mr. Street, c Herton, b Brown	6
Mr. Pope, c Bawa, b Brown	3
Sergeant Gayner, not out	8
Extras	4

Total 31

CRAIGENGOWER CRICKET CLUB.

J. P. Jordan, c Parker, b Butt	4
M. E. Asger, c Stansbury, b Butt	0
A. O. Brown, b Butt	0
L. E. Lammert, run out	5
R. Bawa, c Butt, b Good	2
1st A. Rose, not out	31
J. D. Stuart, c Stansbury, b Cooke	10
E. R. Herton, c Stansbury, b Cooke	8
R. Pestonji, b Cooke	4
R. C. Witchell, b Cooke	1
J. Witchell, b Good	0
Extras	4

Total 87

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

H.M.S. "TAMAR."

H.M.S. "TAMAR."		O.	M.	R.	W.
Brown		9.3	1	10	6
Pestonji		9	1	17	4

CRAIGENGOWER CRICKET CLUB.

CRAIGENGOWER CRICKET CLUB.		O.	M.	R.	W.
Good		10.5	4	24	2
Butt		8		10	3
Cooke		7	1	23	4
Parker		2		16	

QUEEN'S COLLEGE v. Y.M.C.A.

Teams representing Queen's College and the Y.M.C.A. met in a friendly contest at the Happy Valley on the 29th ult., when the former came off victorious. Appended are the full scores:—

F. Mow Fung, c H. K. Leung, b S. S. Kwong	0
Ko Po Shun, c and b Alarakia	4
Tsui Chuanan (capt.), c H. K. Leung, b S. S. Kwong	1
L. A. Chauson, c Loureiro, b Alarakia	0
A. S. Wong, b S. S. Kwong	0
B. C. Wong, b S. S. Kwong	0
Rev. J. Southam, c Loureiro, b H. K. Leung	14
G. Benning, run out	1
C. H. Lee, b Alarakia	0
J. M. Wong, not out	1
Ho Ko-tsun, b H. K. Leung	0
Extras	11

Total 32

QUEEN'S COLLEGE.

W. Alarakia, b B. Wong	13
Shi Shiu Kwong, c Southam, b T. C. Fan	11
F. Mootee, b B. Wong	11
H. C. Sayer, c A. Wong, b B. Wong	0
Hung Kwok-leung (capt.), c B. Wong, b T. C. Fan	2
F. Loureiro, c B. Wong, b T. C. Fan	10
E. Bunje, st A. Wong	4
Iam Kai-ming, c A. Wong, b T. C. Fan	0
Tsui Po-min, c and b T. C. Fan	0
C. V. Curragu, not out	3
H. Bunje, c B. Wong, b T. C. Fan	0
Extras	11

Total 68

FOOTBALL.

The Hongkong F.C. "A" met a team of the Officers of H.M.S. *Argonaut* on Monday evening at Happy Valley. Although handicapped the greater portion of the game by the absence of Wilkinson, who sustained an injury to his knee, the *Argonauts* defeated the Club by three goals to one.

On the 29th ult. the Club's Rugby team drew with the Navy, the score being one try all. After the match the Six-a-side medals were presented to Mr. Wolfe's victorious team by Mrs. Atkinson, wife of the President of the Club.

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

The third Club race was sailed on Sunday, November 30th, in a good though somewhat variable breeze of about the same strength as that which prevailed in the second race. Between 12 and 4 o'clock the wind in the middle of the harbour was considerably stronger than at the start, and *Vernon*, doubtless in anticipation of a freshening wind started with a reef down, which piece of caution in all probability cost her the race. The start in the first class was very even, but *Alannah* to leeward was badly blanketed by *Dione*. *Vernon* was to windward of the other two, and by the time the boats crossed for the first time had established a clear lead. *Alannah* did not seem to be going as well as in the last race, and both her rivals soon drew clear away from her. *Dione*, after clearing the shipping, stood further in towards the Hongkong shore than *Vernon*, and getting a stronger tide and some favourable southerly puffs off the hills, gained considerably, and shortly afterwards passed clear ahead of the other new boat. For some distance there was little between the two, but as they approached Lyemooon the wind got lighter and *Dione* rapidly increased her lead. Shortly before the Beacon was reached *Vernon* took out her reef and changed foresails very smartly, and being somewhat favoured by the wind lost little ground during the operation. *Dione* rounded the rocks about 2½ minutes ahead of *Vernon* and about 4 minutes ahead of *Alannah*. On the run to Kowloon Rocks and the reach to Meyer's buoy the relative positions of the boats was unchanged, though *Vernon* drew up slightly on *Dione* and *Alannah* on both. Before Meyer's buoy was reached the tide had turned and all three boats started working up the Hongkong shore. *Vernon*, however, soon took a long board out into Kowloon Bay, and *Dione* followed her, while *Alannah* stuck to the Hongkong shore, trying to cheat the tide. *Alannah* was considerably astern of the other two by this time, but she might have had a chance had she not gone too close in opposite the Metropole Hotel and got ashore on the sand bank which there runs out some distance from the land. On this bank she stuck for 5 minutes or so, and afterwards was completely out of the race. The two new boats had a magnificent race. *Vernon*, with her full sail, gradually reduced the gap which separated her from *Dione*,

and at one time it looked as if she would make the Beacon first. But in the light wind close under the shore *Dione* again crept away and got round the mark about a minute ahead. On the run *Vernon* picked up a little, but not enough to give her the race, which ended as follows:—

	H.	M.	S.	Points	Total
<i>Dione</i> ..	4	27	14	10	21
<i>Vernon</i> ..	4	28	0	4	8
<i>Alannah</i> ..	4	38	0	1	15

ONE DESIGN CLASS.

Bonito and *Kathleen* crossed the line together a few seconds after gunfire, *Bonito* being to windward near the mark boat with *Min* and *Colleen*, followed by *Erica*, close astern. *Min*, well served by her new sail, passed and drew gradually away from the others, while *Kathleen* passed *Bonito*. *Erica* took a long board into Kowloon Bay, and losing several minutes was, bar flukes, out of the race. *Colleen* overhauled *Kathleen* in the rather fluky wind near the Beacon, which the two boats reached together, *Kathleen* having the inside berth and rounding first. On the run to the rock and the reach following *Min* further increased her lead and *Kathleen* drew away from *Colleen*. On the second beat and the run home the boats maintained their positions, except that *Bonito* gained considerably on *Colleen*, which was badly served by the wind near the Beacon, and subsequently passed her on the run. At no time during the race did the issue look doubtful, and *Min* is to be congratulated on her win.

The times at the finish were:—

	H.	M.	S.	Points	Total
<i>Min</i> ..	4	48	17	10	18
<i>Kathleen</i> ..	4	50	25	4	15
<i>Bonito</i> ..	4	53	37	1	1
<i>Colleen</i> ..	4	54	5	0	1
<i>Erica</i> ..	5	2	25	0	11

SECOND CLASS.

In this class *Chanticleer* came out for the first time this season and *Payne* was an absentee, a very unusual thing, for she has very seldom missed a race in all her long racing career. *Iris* was again well to the fore throughout the race, this time in the hands of Commander Deane of the *Tamar*, and finished an easy winner.

The times at the finish were:

	H. M. S.			Corrected Times		Points	Total points	
<i>Iris</i>	5	5	25	5	5	25	14	39
<i>Maid Marian</i> ..	5	8	10	5	7	3	4	9
<i>Chanticleer</i> ...	5	14	5	5	10	43	1	1
<i>Durra</i>	5	16	0	5	12	38	0	0
<i>Gloria</i>	did not finish						0	0
<i>Payne</i>	did not start						0	0

RIFLE MATCH.

A rifle match between teams from H.M.S. *Ocean* and the Royal Engineers was fired off on 27th ult. The following are the scores of the best eight of each team:—

	H.M.S. "OCEAN."	200 yds.	300 yds.	400 yds.	Tl.
C. Marshall, P.O.I.	...	33	34	29	96
J. Crocker, Ch. Armr.	...	33	33	27	93
Mr. Wood	...	31	34	27	92
T. Hobbs, P.O.I.	...	29	32	29	90
Lieut. Craig	...	32	30	28	90
Mr. Jeffery	...	31	25	32	88
Bomb. Leuillette	...	31	32	25	88
J. Cousens, Lg. Sea.	...	31	27	28	86

Average, 90.37

	ROYAL ENGINEERS.	31	34	31	96
Lieut. Bingay	...	31	31	25	87
L. Cor. Robertson	...	28	29	28	85
Sapper Palmer	...	30	32	22	84
Sapper Blaber	...	28	28	24	80
Corpl. Angus	...	30	29	19	78
Sapper Watts	...	25	29	29	74
L. Cor. Bond	...	27	22	24	73

Average 82.12

Captain Liu, who was recently reported to have been executed at Chongchow, is stated at Tientsin to have escaped with the connivance of the local officials and gentry.

THE STRAITS CURRENCY QUESTION.

GOVERNMENT VIEWS IN 1898.

A paper just laid before the Singapore Legislative Council contains a despatch on the Straits Settlements Currency question by the late Sir Charles Mitchell, then Governor. It bears date the 9th March, 1898. At that time the Singapore Chamber of Commerce favoured a gold standard scheme that had been drawn up by a sub-committee of that body. The Governor subjected the report of committee to sharp and adverse criticism, and pointed out that, among the mercantile community of the day, there was considerable divergence of opinion as to the remedy for the exchange difficulty. The sub-committee's scheme was purely tentative, and the report was silent as the cost of the experiment of changing from a silver to a gold basis. The report counselled the issue of one dollar notes to tide over the time between the proposed demonetisation of the existing dollars and the issue of new token dollars. The Governor remarked that the cost of the dollar notes would be heavy, and would have to be borne by the Government. He then laid his finger on the weak point of the report—its silence as to the limit to which the proposed token dollars would be legal tender. The Governor thus touches on this:—

"If there is to be a limit of legal tender, the scheme would mean not putting the dollar on a gold basis but introducing a gold currency. Any attempt to establish a gold currency in the Far East is out of the question, not only because, as pointed out by Sir David Barbour in his minute on the report of the Indian Commission, gold coins would in practice be of too great value to suit the vast majority of transactions, but because of the great cost and risk of introducing a large stock of gold, even supposing that the world's supply of gold were sufficient."

The Governor objected to a proposal of the sub-committee to render the token dollar 60 to 75 per cent. of the weight of the current dollar. The objection is based on the ground that any sudden change in the intrinsic value of a coin which had, for generations, been the standard of value in the Far East should, if possible, be avoided. In his opinion a reduction in the weight of the dollar would be regarded by the natives with mistrust, and, in the neighbouring countries or islands with which we trade and where silver *per se* is looked on as the measure of value, it would certainly be repudiated. No native coming to our shores to trade would be content to receive payments of silver reduced in weight by say 25 per cent. The Governor raised another point of objection by noting that, before a Currency Commission appointed by Sir Cecil C. Smith, the then Governor, in 1903, Mr. Craig, a witness, stated "so long as we are on the outskirts of and surrounded by countries using different dollars, all of which come to Singapore, we should do nothing to spoil our trade, and I think that if we make any change to a sterling basis, to the prejudice of the dollar, we shall spoil our trade with silver using countries." Mr. Murray, another witness, expressed the opinion that silver coins with a fictitious value for circulation in the Straits could never be sent out of the Colony.

Sir Charles Mitchell then showed that the sub-committee really wanted a gold currency pure and simple. He brought forward the opinions of some of the witnesses at the Currency Commission of 1893 to show what this meant. Mr. Edelman declared "In my opinion, if the use of dollars for trade transactions is not prohibited in this Colony, any change in the currency would be a dead letter." Mr. Allinson said "If it was left open for people to make contracts in other dollars, the change of currency would be a dead letter." Sir Charles Mitchell then dwelt upon the great danger of the proposed token dollars being successfully counterfeited in China for importation there. He expressed the opinion that the Chamber of Commerce sub-committee's currency scheme should be set aside and that the results of the currency experiments in India and Japan be awaited before the local Government committed itself to any sweeping currency changes. He laid special stress on the need for getting at the opinion of the bulk

of the native trading population as to a change in our currency system, and to the fact that the extent to which their interests would be affected by such a change had never been ascertained.

The concluding portion of Sir Charles Mitchell's despatch holds equally good now as then, says the *Straits Times*:—

"One thing only appears to be certain, and that is, that there is a general wish for fixity of exchange, apart altogether from the question of how far our prosperity has been affected by the fall in the price of silver, and any assistance that Her Majesty's Government could give to attain such an end would be gratefully acknowledged by the community of the Straits Settlements."

AFFAIRS IN MANCHURIA.

A Dr. Tomidzu, who has been travelling in North China, arrived at Moji at the end of last month and was interviewed by a representative of a Japanese newspaper. Dr. Tomidzu stated that Chinese troops hired by Russia are stationed along the railway in Manchuria and the Russian gendarmes control them. Although these hired men are called troops, in reality they are nothing but coolies. The Russians place as many obstacles as they can in the way of Japanese desirous of proceeding to Manchuria. Sometimes they are detained by force by the Russians. The Russians are afraid of the Japanese. On the 2nd October Dr. Tomidzu wanted to proceed to Shanhaikwan from Newchwang; but he could only get a ticket to Kinkow, the explanation given being that the line between the latter place and Shanhaikwan had been transferred to China on that day. Dr. Tomidzu thereupon took train to Kinkow; only to find that the Chinese train had not yet arrived there. A Russian captain who mistook Dr. Tomidzu for a Japanese military officer invited him to come to the Russian barracks to tiffin. Strange to say the Russians welcome and well treat the Japanese military officers, although they fear the visit of ordinary Japanese subjects. There are about 10,000 Russian troops in Manchuria at the present time, and it is inevitable that fighting will ensue when Japan starts to do anything there. It is advisable that this stage should come about, if only to teach the Russians to fear the Japanese. Shanhaikwan is not a business place and the influence of the Japanese troops there is good. The area occupied by the Japanese at Chinwangtao is greatest of all. The influence of the Japanese, British and Germans is most conspicuous there. The British enterprise in the island compares very unfavourably with that of the Russians at Dalny. This may be explained by the fact that at Chinwangtao the former's enterprise is in the hands of a private company, while at Dalny the Russian Government is at work. In Dalny all foreigners, with the exception of the Japanese, are allowed to own land. This is another proof of the fear with which the Russians regard the Japanese.

HONGKONG.

Plague regulations at Calcutta and in the Madras Presidency against Hongkong have been withdrawn.

The prohibition to export arms, etc., is extended for a further period of six months, by a proclamation in the *Gazette*.

The name of Ludwig Braun has been added to the list of persons qualified to practise medicine and surgery in this Colony.

At the meeting of the Zealand Lodge held on Monday evening, Mr. B. Brotherton Harker was elected Worshipful Master for the ensuing year.

The *Gazette* notifies that the King's exequatur empowering M. Thomas Hamman to act as Consul for Belgium at Hongkong has received His Majesty's signature.

On the 1st inst. was the anniversary of the birthday of Her Majesty Queen Alexandra, and in honour of the event the warships and other vessels in the harbour displayed bunting, whilst a Royal salute was fired at noon.

The visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum for the week ending 30th November were 212 non-Chinese and 77 Chinese to the former, and 49 non-Chinese and 2,068 Chinese to the latter institution.

Lieut. G. R. MacDonald, R.A., left Singapore for Hongkong by the *Kunig Albert* to rejoin his company, H.K.S.B., R.A.

Four cases of communicable disease were reported in the Colony last week, being classified as follows:—Diphtheria 1 (European); enteric fever 2 (both European, imported); with 1 death; small pox 1 (European).

Mr. Andrew Harvie, for twenty years foreman in charge of the Hongkong & Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd., died early on the 1st inst. from pneumonia complicated with heart disease, and was buried same day afternoon in the Happy Valley Cemetery. The deceased gentleman, who expired after a very brief illness, was well known in the Colony, and had a large circle of friends, the majority of whom attended the funeral.

An alarming accident, resulting in grievous injury to a Chinese apprentice painter of 16, occurred on board the *Indrapura* whilst she was lying outside the Co-mopolitan Docks at noon on Tuesday. The steam steering gear was working, and the unfortunate lad was caught in the links and dragged against a pulley. His right arm was wrenched off and his right leg below the knee completely shattered. He was medically attended to on board and afterwards sent to the Government Civil Hospital.

Whilst a party of Filipinos numbering about ten or eleven were gambling on the 30th ult. in a house at 52, Stanley Street, a quarrel arose, as the result of which Manuel Gonzales seized a table-knife and stabbed Sipiario Keludo in the back, underneath the right shoulder blade, inflicting a severe wound. Keludo was assisted by friends to the Central Police Station, where a complaint was made, and after his injury had been dressed he was sent to the Government Civil Hospital. Gonzales was afterwards arrested by Police-Sergeant 22 Watt.

The *Korea*, which arrived here on Thursday, beat the record in her time from San Francisco to Honolulu, 5 days, 6 hours, 51 mins., and her time from Honolulu to Yokohama was also excellent, 8 days, 20 hours, 47 mins. From Shanghai to Hongkong it was a record—45 hours, 47 mins. She left San Francisco on Nov. 7 with nearly 200 passengers, treasure worth \$1,000,000 gold, and a cargo of flour, cotton and other miscellaneous freight. Viscount Inouye, who has been Japanese Consul in Berlin, was one of the passengers, as also was Mr. Tom McKay, general passenger agent for the San Francisco overland route, whose face is a well-known one in Hongkong.

The river steamer *Kwang Chow* was successfully launched on Monday evening at 8 o'clock from the yard of Messrs. Bailey & Murphy at Kowloon Bay, when the weather was all that could be desired, and in striking contrast to the heavy wind which prevented her launching on Sunday evening. The steam trials will take place in a few days, the vessel having been launched with engines and boilers on board and ready for steam. After the launching ceremony Messrs. Bailey & Murphy entertained the owners and their friends on board, the usual toasts being duly honoured. The launching weight of the *Kwang Chow* is 550 tons, and she is believed to be so far the heaviest launch in the Colony. The vessel is destined for the Hongkong Canton run and is fitted with electric light throughout.

The following statement of Hongkong's Assets and Liabilities on the 30th September, 1902 is published in the *Gazette* over the signature of the Hon. A. M. Thomson, Colonel Treasurer:—

ASSETS.		\$	c.
Bank balance			
Crown Agents' balance			
Advances, &c.		61,570.16	
Subsidiary coins		626,000.00	
		808,570.16	
LIABILITIES.		\$	c.
Deposits not available		113,438.81	
Crown Agents' drafts		118,000.00	
Money order remittances		19,756.65	
Balance overdrawn, bank		59,569.26	
Balance overdrawn, Crown Agents		5,171.91	
Balance		73,433.54	
		809,570.16	
Subsidiary coins in transit		\$	
Estimate of silver at mint			\$

A ricksha-coolie died in hospital on Wednesday night from injuries sustained by a fall down a flight of forty steps at the house where he lodged. He was reported by his friends to be suffering from fever at the time of the accident.

We are informed that the China Commercial Steamship Company, which was incorporated in Hongkong on 1st November, will inaugurate a service between this port and Mexico at the beginning of March next. The Company's steamers will carry both freight and passengers, and a monthly service will be maintained between Hongkong and the Mexican ports of Mazatlan and Maxavillo, the places of call en route being Yokohama, Honolulu and San Francisco. Mr. J. S. Van Buren, well-known through his connection with the Pacific Mail Steamship Co., has been appointed agent and is presently in America completing the preliminary arrangements for the inauguration of the new service. The capital is subscribed by Chinese and is to the amount of \$1,000,000, allotted in 9,981 shares of \$100 each with 20 founders. Mr. Eng Hok Fong is president of the new Company.

A pretty wedding was that of Mr. Carl Ernst Paul Matthiessen of the Chinese Engineering and Mining Co., Tongku, son of Capt. Matthiessen, "Queen's Hussars" Berlin, and Miss Ella Mary Edith King, eldest daughter of Mr. George J. W. King, of the Public Works Department, which took place on the 3rd inst. in St John's Cathedral. The bride, who was given away by her father, looked charming in a dress of white figured satin draped with chiffon, with court train, and wore the orthodox wreath of orange blossoms and veil. The Rev. F. T. Johnson, M.A., Chaplain of the Cathedral, was the officiating clergyman, and Mr. A. G. Ward at the organ played as an opening piece "The Bridal March" from *Lohengrin* and at the conclusion of the ceremony Mendelssohn's inspiring "Wedding March." The Cathedral was tastefully decorated. The happy couple left by the *Hongshan* for Macao, where they will spend their honeymoon before proceeding North.

The German gunboat *Illis* left the harbour on the 1st inst. for Singapore.

If M. battleship *Glorie* arrived from Japan on Tuesday at 4.30 p.m., and the U.S. cruiser *New Orleans* on Wednesday from Amoy. The Portuguese gunboat *Zaire* left on Wednesday for Macao.

A battleship and two gunboats of the U.S. fleet—viz., *Kentucky*, *Helena*, and *Vicksburg*—and the U.S. transport *Saturn* from Amoy, and the Russian cruiser *Admiral Nakhimov* from Nagasaki, arrived on Thursday. The British gunboat *Brit mart* left the same day for Bangkok.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The order of the double dragon, second class, third grade, has been conferred upon Richard T. Greener, commercial agent for the United States at Vladivostok.

Another Japanese cruiser is to be built at Yokosuka following the *Nitaka*, which was launched on the 15th ult. The new vessel will be of the third class, of 2,900 tons displacement, and will be named the *Okara*.

The Governor of Honan says the *P. & T. Times* has been instructed to send to Viceroy Chung the deposition of Wu Ching-sen, who was recently executed on a charge of intention to rebel, as, unless there was sufficient cause for his death, the Governor will be impeached for lightly sacrificing life to please the foreigners. This action has been inspired by the Honan officials.

There is a light side to the prolonged discussion of the Franco-Siam Convention. A M. Van lelet contributes to the *Sigon Opinion* an account of what happened at the first meeting of the French community in Bangkok. M. Vandelet says he was profoundly surprised to see an official of the French Legation on the upper verandah of the house while the protest meeting was going on downstairs. But he was still more astonished when their dayen, at whose house they were meeting, ended up his speech with the words, "I shall discuss the matter with our *Chargé d'Affaires*. I have an invitation to dine with him this evening." He was amazed to find the conclusion thus forced on the meeting that the *Chargé d'Affaires* was heard and soul with the protest.

We have received from the Navy League an instructive pamphlet entitled "The Need for Effort," on the text taken from the Duke of Devonshire's speech to the British Empire League on the 7th July last—"The question of Imperial defence is one which cannot wait. If we wait till it solves itself we may wait until there is no British Empire at all to defend."

The good folks of Shanghai, says the *Union*, who voted for tramways on the plea that they would bring rents down, may be interested in learning that according to official returns of one place where trams were laid down, the rents increased from 10 to 25 per cent. It is only natural that, giving facilities for getting to and from a place, the value of land will increase and rents will be higher.

Judgment was given at Yokohama on the 21st ult. in the charge of adultery brought by Mr. Jovansen against his wife. The judgment convicts Mrs. Jovansen of being guilty of adultery with R. G. Hopkins, and sentences Mrs. Jovansen to six months' imprisonment and Hopkins to eight months' imprisonment. It has been practically decided by the accused parties to appeal against the conviction.

Telegraphic news in the *Echo de Chine* of 26th state that the polemics on the subject of the Siamese treaty continue. M. Etienne, replying to the *Temps*, demands a supplement to the negotiations bearing on (1) The frontier as far as the littoral; (2) The 22-kilometre zone reduced to purely military service; (3) Precise definition of the condition of French citizenship, not to exclude Chinese settled in Indo China nor Cambodians resident in Siam; (4) The maintenance of French jurisdiction over all *protégés*; (5) Definition of real advantages in lieu of promises concerning public works. A despatch to Japanese papers, dated Vienna, 20th November, says:—"The British Government will open negotiations with the French Government with the object of making clear their object in maintaining the integrity of Siam. A shortcoming is understood to have been discovered in the Anglo-French Treaty of 1896." We should have thought there were many shortcomings.

COMMERCIAL.

SILK.

CANTON, 20th November:—Re-reel:—Scarcely anything is on offer in this class, and small stock has been still further reduced by purchases of 10 Bales Extra at \$840 and 15 Bales each Nos. 1, 2 and 3, at \$780, all ordinary classification. Filatures:—Buying for Europe has been excessively active and purchases amount to fully 3,500 Bales. Latest settlements show an advance paid of \$40.50 per picul, discounted of course to some extent by the daily falling Exchange. The market closes in an extremely unsettled condition and with a marked reduction in the ready stock. Top prices reported as paid are on the basis of \$1,070 for Kwong Yuen On 9 11, \$1,020 for Chee Chung Wo 11/13, \$930 for Sun Yue Lun 10/18, \$840 for Wai King Wo 18 22. The available stock of Best 3e Ordre has been pretty well cleared out up to \$850.855 average for 11/13, 13 15. Short-reels:—America at first failed to respond to the movement. Latterly business has become more active and considerable settlements have been made up to \$900 for Sai Shie Lun and \$94 for Kwai King Lun 14 16. Waste:—The easier tone reported in our last became a continued and aided by Exchange, buying has been resumed on a moderate scale. Sales of Steam Ext. Sel. Opened are reported at \$132 and of Ext. Opened at \$102.

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 5th December:—No arrivals.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 5th December:—There is no change in the position of the market and the prices are the same as when last reported.

Shekloong, No. 1, White.....	\$8.15 to \$8.20 per
do. " 2, White.....	7.80 to 7.85 "
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown	6.65 to 6.10 "
do. " 2, Brown	5.89 to 5.85 "
Swatow, No. 1, White.....	8.05 to 8.10 "
Swatow, No. 1, White.....	7.65 to 7.70 "
do. " 1, Brown	5.89 to 5.85 "
do. " 2, Brown	5.65 to 5.70 "
Foochow Sugar Candy	12.10 to 12.15 "
Shekloong	9.55 to 9.60 "

RICE.

HONGKONG, 5th December. The prices are further declining, market being dull.

Saigon, Ordinary	\$3.40 to 3.45
" Round, Good quality	4.55 to 4.60
" Long	4.70 to 4.75
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2	3.60 to 3.65
" Garden, " No. 1	4.25 to 4.30
" White	4.80 to 4.85
" Fine Cargo	4.90 to 4.95

OPIMUM.

HONGKONG, 5th December. Malwa:—Small sales were effected at the following rate:—

New	\$1.030
2 Years	1.060
3 "	1.070
4 5 "	1.080
Older	1.100

Bengal:—There was considerable fluctuation in this; the highest point touched was \$995 for Patna and Benares. We close to-day \$975 for both kinds.

Persian:—Is quiet. A small parcel of best drug was taken up at \$700.

Patna	1.953
Benares	716
Malwa	853
Persian	2.002

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 5th December. —Good business done at a slight rise in superior quality, the local mill being also in evidence as buyers. Stock, about 900 bales.

Bombay,	21.50 to 23.00 picul.
Bengal (New), Rangoon,	22.50 to 24.50 "
and Dacca,	"
Shanghai and Japanese,	26.00 to 26.50 "
Tungchow and Ningpo,	26.00 to 26.50 "
Sales:—1,000 bales.	

YARN.

Mr. P. Eduljee says in his Report, dated Hongkong, 5th December: The market has been featureless, and business continues in the same dull and languid state as previously advised. The restricted demand from the country has still further subsided, and what with the vagaries of exchange, the disorganised condition of the consuming districts, and the entire cessation of orders from Shanghai, we are passing through a period of unprecedented depression. Notwithstanding a rise of half to one dollar and a half in the values of two or three tickets of Nos. 12s. and 20s. owing to scarcity, prices may be called unchanged, and the market closes unsteady in sympathy with lower advices from India.

Local Manufacture: The local mill is very firm in its quotations and notifies an advance of one dollar per bale all round, and about 600 bales No. 10s. and No. 12s. are reported to have been taken up at \$97 and \$99 respectively.

Japanese Yarn:—Nothing doing, and in a disappointing condition generally; unfavourable exchange checking importations and seriously affecting business.

Raw Cotton: New crop Indian Cotton is now arriving more freely, but experiencing no demand for the neighbouring country markets, the only business reported during the interval being the purchase of about 700 bales superfine machine-ginned Pongal at from \$24 to \$24½ by our local Mill. Unsold stock about 1,000 bales. There is little doing in China descriptions, about 250 bales. Theongchow changing hands at from \$26 to \$26.39, leaving a stock of about 500 bales on the market. Quotations are Indian \$22 to \$24 and \$26 to \$27 Chinese descriptions.

Exchange on India after touching Rs. 115½ and Rs. 115½, closes to-day at Rs. 116½ for T T and Rs. 117 for Post. On Shanghai 71½ and on Yokohama 32 per cent. premium.

The undernoted business in imported and local spinings is reported from Shanghai during the fortnight ended 25th ultimo, viz:—

Indian:—Demand has greatly subsided, sales amounting only to 3,185 bales, comprising 550 bales No. 10s., 431 bales No. 12s., 123 bales No. 16s., and 1,751 bales No. 20s., prices showing little or no change from last estimate and market closing steady. Unsold stock about 28,000 bales.

Japanese: Total sales about 2,000 bales on the basis of Tls. \$74 to 92½ for No. 16s. and Tls. 91 to 94½ for No. 20s., prices continuing unchanged, and market closing firm.

Local:—Nothing doing in either bales or bundles, whatever demand there is being supplied from second-hand stocks.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 21st November. Amongst the sales reported during the week are the following:—

	per bala
Bombay:—Nos. 16 to 20s.....	\$84.00 to \$126.00
English:—Nos. 16 to 24.....	114.00 to 120.00
" 22 to 24.....	120.00 to 128.00
" 28 to 32.....	136.00 to 142.00
" 38 to 42.....	155.00 to 170.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	per piece.
Grey Shirtings 6 lbs.	2.20 to 2.30
7 lbs.	2.30 to 2.50
8 4 lbs.	3.10 to 3.77½
9 10 lbs.	3.85 to 5.00
White Shirtings 54 to 56 rd.	2.50 to 2.90
58 to 60 "	3.25 to 3.45
64 to 66 "	3.55 to 5.35
Fine,	5.40 to 7.85
Book-folds	4.55 to 7.00
Victoria Lawns 12 yards.....	0.75 to 1.40
T. Cloths 6 lbs. (32 in.), Ordly.	1.90 to 2.15
7 lbs. (32 ")	2.20 to 2.50
6 lbs. (32 ") Mexs.	2.25 to 2.40
7 lbs. (32 ")	3.95 to 3.50
8 to 8 4 oz. (36 in.)	3.20 to 3.75
Drills, English 10 yds. (34 ")	4.20 to 6.90
to 14 lbs.)	

FANCY COTTONS.

Turkey Red Shirtings 14 to 8 lbs.)	1.50 to 4.85
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Broadens—Dyed	— to —
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DAMASKS.

	per yard
Chintzes—Assorted	— to —
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.27 to 0.60
Velveteens 18 in.	0.23 to 0.28

	per dozen
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk	0.39 to 5.90

WOOLLENS.

	per yard
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops.	0.65 to 2.25
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths	1.25 to 3.60

	per piece
Long Ells—Scarlet, 7-10 lbs.	6.85 to 8.25
Assorted	7.00 to 9.40
Camlets—Assorted	15.50 to 34.00
Lastings 30 yd. 31 inches)	12.50 to 17.00
Assorted	
Orleans—Plain	10.00 to —

	per pair
Blankets 8 to 12 lbs.	0.65 to 0.80
Fine quality,	1.40 to 2.10

METALS.

	per picul
Iron—Nail Rod	4.80 to —
Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.	4.80 to —
Swedish Bar	4.85 to —
Small Round Rod	5.05 to —
Hoop 2 to 11 2 in.	6.50 to —
Wire, 16 25,	9.40 to —
Old Wire Rope	3.50 to —
Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop	8.10 to —
Australian	8.40 to —
Yellow Metal—Muntz 14 20 oz.	41.00 to —
Vivian's 14 20 oz.	41.00 to —
EHiot's 14 20 oz.	41.00 to —
Composition Nails	61.00 to —
Japan Copper, Slabs,	39.00 to —
Tin	83.00 to —

	box. per
Tin-Plates	8.50 to —
	per cwt. case
Steel ½ to ¾	6.50 to —

SUNDRIES.

	per picul
Quicksilver	18.50 to —
	per box.
Window Glass	5.75 to —
	per 10-gal. case
Kerosene Oil	3.00 to —

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

FRIDAY, 5th December.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1.61½
Bank Bills, on demand	1/6 13/16
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1.61
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1.71½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1.71½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1.71½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	1.97
Credits, 4 months' sight	2.01
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	1.61½

ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	384
Credits, 60 days' sight	39
ON BOMBAY.—Telegraphic Transfer	116
Bank, on demand	117
ON CALCUTTA.—Telegraphic Transfer	116
Bank, on demand	117
ON SHANGHAI.—Bank, at sight	71
Private, 30 days' sight	72
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	332 p.c. pm.
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	18 p.c. disc.
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	18 p.c. disc.
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	94
ON HAIPHONG.—	
On demand	1 p.c. pm.
ON SAIGON.—	
On demand	1 p.c. pm.
ON BANGKOK.—	
On demand	nominal
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	\$12.70
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	\$66.70
BAR SILVER per oz.	21 1/2

SHARE REPORT.

HONGKONG, 5th December. — Business generally has continued very dull throughout the week under review, and with the exception of the decided advance in Banks and the marked decline in China Sugars, there is nothing calling for special mention.

BANKS. — Hongkong and Shanghai have steadily improved in value, and after sales at \$640 to \$645, shares are now enquired for at \$650. The London rate is unaltered at \$62.50. Nationals are without change at \$27 sellers.

MARINE INSURANCE. — Unions have sold and continue in request at \$46. China Traders are steady at \$59, at which sales are reported. North Chinas have been booked at Fls. 1 7/8. Yangtszes continue in demand, and \$123 is now offered for shares. Cantons have sold and can still be obtained at \$167 1/2.

FIRE INSURANCES. — Hongkongs continue on offer at \$345. Chinas have again been done at \$85 1/2 and continue on offer at \$86.

SHIPPING. — Hongkong, Canton and Macao have receded, and after sales at \$37 1/2 to \$37 1/4 there are further shares to be picked up at the lower rate. Indo-Chinas have steadied, and are now enquired for at \$91. China Manilas are neglected at \$26 sellers. Doughases have been disposed of at \$41 1/2 to \$42 and close with some sellers at the higher rate. Star Ferries are unchanged. Shell Transports are steady at £1. 15s. and buyers could probably be found for the stock at this rate.

REFINERIES. — China Sugars continue to decline and \$85 would probably be accepted for shares in the company.

MINING. — Punjoms are unaltered at \$22 buyers. Jelabus have declined to \$11 sellers. Raubs have improved slightly to \$64 with buyers.

DOCKS, WHARVES & GODOWNS. — Hongkong & Whampoa Docks have been booked at \$215 to \$217 1/2, and close with further buyers at \$215. Hongkong & Kowloon Wharves have declined to \$89 with sales and further sellers. New Amoy Docks have not been dealt in during the week, and the quotation remains at \$10 nominal.

LANDS, HOTELS & BUILDINGS. — Hongkong Lands are somewhat better with buyers at \$8. \$3. Kowloon Lands have sold at \$30 1/2, and are in further request at \$31. West Points can be placed at \$3, and Hongkong Hotels at \$14. Orientes continue on offer at \$40. Humphreys Estates have receded to sellers at \$12 1/2.

COTTON MILLS. — Ewos have improved to Fls. 40, and Soy Chees to Fls. 160. Hongkong Cottons have sold at \$17 1/2 and can still be placed in small quantities.

MISCELLANEOUS. — Green Island Cements are wanted at \$20. Ropes are reported sold at \$120, and are on further offer. Steam Water-Beds are wanted at \$8 1/2. Watkins have been done at \$7 1/2; and Powells at \$9 to \$9 1/2, at which a further demand exists. China Providents are steady with sales and probably further buyers at \$9 1/2.

MEMOS. — Hongkong & Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd., extraordinary meeting on the 8th instant. Dairy Farm Co., Ltd., ordinary yearly meeting on the 8th instant.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Bank of China		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	\$650, buyers
Natl. Bank of China		£150, £162 1/2
A. Shares	£8	\$27, sellers
B. Shares	£8	\$27, sellers
Four Shares	£1	\$10, sellers
Bell's Asbestos & Co.	£1	\$1, buyers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$35
China-Borneo Co., Ltd.	\$15	\$25
China Light & Power Co., Ltd.	\$20	\$15, sellers
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	\$9, sellers
China Sugar	\$100	\$85, sellers
Cigar Companies		
Alhambra Limited	\$500	\$500, buyers
Philippine Tobacco Invest. Co., Ltd.	\$50	£1, sellers
Cotton Mills		
Ewos	Fls. 100	Fls. 10
International	Fls. 75	Fls. 10
Laon Kung Mow	Fls. 100	Fls. 10
Soychees	Fls. 500	Fls. 160
Hongkong	\$100	\$17 1/2, sales
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$12, sellers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$10
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$20, buyers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$10, sellers
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$440, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$13 1/2, sales
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$6 1/2, buyers
Hk. Steam Water	£5	\$1, buyers
Hotel Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$11 1/2
Hongkong Hotel	\$25	\$210
H. & K. Wharf & Co.	\$50	\$8, sales & sellers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$120, sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$15, buyers
Insurance		
Canton	\$50	\$167 1/2, sales & sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$56, sellers
China Traders	\$25	\$59, sales
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$31 1/2, sellers
North China	\$25	Fls. 177 1/2, sales
Straits	\$20	\$1, nominal
Union	\$50	\$496, sales & buyers
Yangtze	\$50	\$133, buyers
Land and Building		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$100	\$383, buyers
Humphreys Estates	\$10	\$12 1/2, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$31, buyers
West Point Building	\$50	\$52, buyers
Lauzon Sugar	\$100	\$15, sellers
Manila Invest. Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$12 1/2
Mining		
Charbonnages	Fls. 250	\$6 1/2, sellers
Jelabus	\$5	\$1, sellers
Punjoms	\$10	\$21, buyers
Do. Preference	\$1	\$1, sellers
Raubs	£8	\$6 1/2
New Amoy Dock	\$6 1/2	\$10, sales
Oriente Hotel, Manila	\$50	\$10, sales
Powell, Ltd.	\$10	\$9 1/2, buyers
Robinson Piano Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$50, nominal
Steamship Coys.		
China and Manila	\$50	\$23, sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$15	£1, nominal
H. Canton and M.	\$50	\$12, sellers
Indo-China S. N.	\$15	\$37 1/2, seller
Shel Transport and Trading Co.	£1	£1. 15, sales
Star Ferry	\$10	\$23, sellers
Telegraph Planting Co.	\$5	\$13
United Abestos	\$1	\$8 1/2, buyers
Do.	\$10	\$155
Universal Trading Co., Ltd.	\$5	\$19, nominal
Watkins Ltd.	\$10	\$7 1/2, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$11 1/2, ex div., sales

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 5th December. — Since last report, freights have declined. From Saigon to Hongkong, 15 cents per picul last; to Philippines, 25 cents per picul last; to one port north coast Java, 25 cents per picul. Bangkok to Hongkong, no demand. Java to this 20 cents per picul for dry and 25 cents per picul for wet sugar. Coal freights are weaker. Moji to Hongkong, \$2.50; to Singapore, \$3; to Saigon, \$3.75 per ton. The following are the settlements:—

Cassia German steamer, 1,627 tons, Chinkiang to Hongkong and Canton, \$13,000 in full. Andree Rickmers German steamer, 1,220 tons, Moji to Saigon \$3.75 per ton.

Gethrie British steamer, 1,494 tons, Moji to Saigon, \$3.75 per ton.
 Rossija Russian steamer, 1,315 tons, Moji, Kuchinotzu or Karatzu to Manila, \$4.25 per ton.
 Germania German steamer, 1,714 tons, Moji or Kuchinotzu to Singapore, \$3 per ton.
 Alsea German steamer, 3,312 tons, Moji or Kuchinotzu to Singapore, \$3 per ton.
 Holstein German steamer, 985 tons, Hongkong to Hongkong, \$1.80 per ton.
 Indo-China S. N. Co.'s steamer, Hongkong to Hongkong, \$1.80 per ton.
 Benvenue British steamer, 1,468 tons, Saigon to one port north coast Java, 25 cents per picul.
 Decima German steamer, 794 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 17 cents per picul.
 Amiga German steamer, 822 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 15 cents per picul.
 Perlas British steamer, Saigon to Manila, 25 cents per picul.
 Shandong British steamer, 1,835 tons, Saigon to Yokohama and or Kobe, 31 cents per picul one port, 33 cents two ports.
 Benvenue British steamer, 1,468 tons, two or three ports north coast Java to Hongkong, 20 cents per picul.
 Nausha British steamer, 1,299 tons, two or three ports north coast Java to Hongkong, 20 cents per picul.
 Tonbridge British steamer, 1,814 tons, two or three ports north coast Java to Hongkong, 20 cents per picul.
 Germania German steamer, 1,714 tons, two or three ports north coast Java to Hongkong, 20 cents per picul.
 Selma Norwegian steamer, 800 tons, monthly, 1 month, at \$6,800 per month.
 Uthmaniyah Norwegian steamer, 1,200 tons, monthly, 3 months, at \$7,500 per month.
 Tyr Norwegian steamer, 1,436 tons, monthly, 11 months, at \$7,750 per month.
 Spol Norwegian steamer, 880 tons, monthly, 12 months, at \$9,000 per month.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR ANTWERP. — Kaigawa Maru (str.), Benmahe (str.), Tenkai (str.), Sado Maru (str.), Shanghai (str.).
 FOR LONDON. — Shanghai (str.), Pannamall (str.), Sado Maru (str.), Tantalus (str.), Ulysses (str.), Pelus (str.), Antenor (str.), Kaigawa Maru (str.), Benmahe (str.), Tenkai (str.).
 FOR LIVERPOOL. — Tydus (str.), Alcides (str.), Hysa (str.).
 FOR AMSTERDAM. — Tantalus (str.), Ulysses (str.).
 FOR MARSEILLES. — Princess Marie (str.), Shanghai (str.), Kaigawa Maru (str.), Tenkai (str.), Sado Maru (str.), Indus (str.).
 FOR BREMEN. — Kantschen (str.).
 FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG. — Marburg (str.), Sancia (str.), Wurzberg (str.), Nurnberg (str.), Silas (str.), C. Ferd. Lach (str.), Strassburg (str.).
 FOR GENOA. — Benmahe (str.), Steassburg (str.).
 FOR NAPLES AND LONDON. — Hysa (str.).
 FOR TRIEST. — Indobana (str.).
 FOR VICTORIA, B.C. — Glenogle (str.), Shinano, Maru (str.), Kinshu Maru (str.).
 FOR VANCOUVER. — Express of Japan (str.), Ningchow (str.), Athenais (str.).
 FOR NEW YORK. — Orana (str.), Adia (str.).
 FOR PORTLAND (OR.). — Indus (str.).
 FOR AUSTRALIAN PORTS. — Empire (str.), Kanama Maru (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

November — ARRIVALS.
 30 Ariake Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
 30 Onsang, British str., from Moji.
 30 Shikano Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
 December —
 1. Aneurade, German str., from Haiphong.
 1. Biugo Maru, Japanese str., from London.
 1. Langsha, British str., from Kobe.
 1. Focchow, British str., from Canton.
 1. H. Menzell, German str., from Chinkiang.
 1. Hokoku Maru, Japanese str., from Chefoo.
 1. Kampot, French str., from Saigon.
 1. Loongmoon, German str., from Shanghai.
 1. Moyune, British str., from Liverpool.
 1. Pelus British str., from Liverpool.
 2. Ariel, Norwegian str., from Canton.
 2. Bombay, British str., from London.
 2. Chingfu, British str., from Australia.
 2. Ch'nyen, Chinese str., from Canton.
 2. Esang, British str., from Canton.
 2. Glory, British battleship, from Japan.
 2. Ingalls, U.S. transport, from Manila.
 2. Loyal, German str., from Bangkok.
 2. Marburg, German str., from Shanghai.
 2. Pronto, Norw. str., from Newchwang.

2. Szechuen, British str., from Canton.
2. Taishan, British str., from Bangkok.
2. Tha'es, British str., from Swatow.
2. Tyr Norwegian str., from Hongay.
2. Whigpi, British str., from Wellington.
3. Binh Thuan, French str., from Saigon.
3. Deramore, Norwegian str., from Moji.
3. Deuterios, German str., from Chefoo.
3. Chihli, British str., from Wuhu.
3. Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
3. Haanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
3. Hong Bee, British str., from Singapore.
3. Kagoshima Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
3. Mausang, British str., from Sandakan.
3. New Orleans, U.S. cruiser, from Amoy.
3. Pronto, German str., from Newchwang.
3. Rajaburi, German str., from Bangkok.
3. Shantung, British str., from Java.
3. Sishan, British str., from Saigon.
3. Sullberg, German str., from Newchwang.
3. Tientsin, British str., from Moji.
3. Tientsin, British str., from Canton.
3. Wingsang, British str., from Canton.
4. Admiral Nakimoff, Rus. cr., from Nagasaki.
4. Arratoon Apear, British str., from Calcutta.
4. Benledi, British str., from London.
4. C. Dielerichsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
4. Dagmar, Norwegian str., from Amoy.
4. Daijin Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
4. Hailan, French str., from Hoikow.
4. Hanyang, British str., from Chinkiang.
4. Helena, U.S. gunboat, from Amoy.
4. Katsuyama Maru, Jap. str., from Canton.
4. Kentucky, U.S. battleship, from Amoy.
4. Keongwai, German str., from Ang Hin.
4. Korea, American str., from San Francisco.
4. Kowloon, German str., from Canton.
4. Kweiyang, British str., from Tientsin.
4. Labor, Norwegian str., from Canton.
4. Loksang, British str., from Chefoo.
4. Lothair, Italian barque, from Callao.
4. Petrarch, German str., from Canton.
4. Rohilla Maru, Japanese str., from Manila.
4. Saturn, U.S. transport, from Amoy.
4. Shantung, German str., from Shanghai.
4. Tailee, German str., from Bangkok.
4. Vicksburg, U.S. gunboat, from Amoy.
4. Yunnan, British str., from Wuhu.
5. Chelydra, British str., from Samarang.
5. Montney, U.S. monitor, from Amoy.
5. Parramatta, British str., from Shanghai.
5. Thales, British str., from Swatow.
5. Valetta, British str., from Bombay.
5. Yorktown, U.S. cruiser, from Amoy.

December— DEPARTURES.

1. Doris, Norwegian str., for Canton.
1. Ditt, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
1. Glenfall ch. British str., for Amoy.
1. Haiphong, French str., for Haiphong.
1. Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
1. Huis, German gunboat, for Singapore.
1. Loongmoon, German str., for Canton.
1. Marie Jelsan, German str., for Chinkiang.
1. Sydney, French str., for Europe.
1. Tonkin, French str., for Shanghai.
1. Tritos, German str., for Saigon.
2. Ariake Maru, Jap. str., for Kuchinojzu.
2. Bingo Maru, Japanese str., for Nagasaki.
2. Diamante, British str., for Amoy.
2. Haifoong, British str., for Swatow.
2. Hiroshima Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
2. Hokoku Maru, Japanese str., for Canton.
2. Iyo Maru, Japanese str., for Seattle.
2. Kouy Peng, German str., for Hoikow.
2. Mueduff, British str., for Shanghai.
2. Rosetta Maru, Japanese str., for Manila.
2. Wakamatsu Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.
2. Waterwitch, British s.v., for a cruise.
3. Amur, Russian str., for Canton.
3. Anping Maru, Jap. str., for Coast Ports.
3. Apenrado, German str., for Hoikow.
3. Ariel, Norwegian str., for Shanghai.
3. Chituen, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
3. Esang, British str., for Shanghai.
3. Focchow, British str., for Shanghai.
3. Hermann Mezsell, Ger. str., for Canton.
3. Kolschang, German str., for Bangkok.
3. Moyune, British str., for Yokohama.
3. Pelens, British str., for Shanghai.
3. Pronto, Norwegian str., for Canton.
3. Rubi, British str., for Manila.
3. Sullberg, German str., for Canton.
3. Tartar, British str., for Vancouver.
3. Wingsang, British str., for Swatow.
3. Yiksang, British str., for Shanghai.
3. Zaire, Portuguese gunboat, for Macao.
4. Bombay, British str., for Shanghai.

4. Britomart, British gunboat, for Bangkok.
4. Frithjof, Norwegian str., for Haiphong.
4. Indrapura, British str., for Portland.
4. Ingalls, U.S. transp. str., for Japan.
4. Kampot, French str., for Saigon.
4. Kyoto Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
4. Laisang, British str., for Calcutta.
5. Pronto, German str., for Canton.
4. Szechuen, British str., for Shanghai.
4. Telemachus, British str., for Swatow.
4. Tientsin, British str., for Ningpo.
4. Tyr, Norwegian str., for Canton.
5. Chihli, British str., for Canton.
5. Haitan, British str., for Coast Ports.
5. Hanyang, British str., for Canton.
5. Hong Bee, British str., for Amoy.
5. Kowloon, German str., for Chinkiang.
5. Lisa, Norwegian str., for Karatsu.
5. Shikano Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Rubi*, from Manila, Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Minor, Mrs. W. Grant Fitch, Misses E. M. Rousch, Rice and Litakan, Commander J. R. Hans, U.S.N., Lieut. J. V. Gillet, Messrs. C. Thompson and P. Fitzgerald.

Per *Hiroshima Maru*, for Japan, from Bombay, General Y. Fukushima, Captain O. Higashi, and Surgeon T. Sato.

Per *Laungau*, from Manila, Mrs. Prevost, Major F. Hadra, Miss Adler, Messrs. J. M. Kuesely and M. Valencia.

Per *Rosetta Maru*, from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Bart, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Hughes, Capt. H. Gunn, Eichler, Michael and Meyer and sons, Lieut. H. A. Bishop, Messrs. Carlos Ssell, B. Bhicjee, F. Agnado, Francisco Chuaco, Y. Nishimura and T. Hayashi.

Per *Sylney*, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. de Waal and Mr. de Montgomerie; from Kobe, Mr. Fujishima; from Shanghai, Messrs. Rolobashkon, Bennet, Holmann, Samuel Shwartz, P. Zukerman, De Giorgis Francesco, Rhagis and Wencel Bohaty; for Saigon, from Nagasaki, Messrs. Aleveque, Barand and Coney; from Shanghai, Mr. Guedon; for Singapore, from Yokohama, Messrs. C. Wallace, Hayashi and Mrs. Walla Ogawa; from Kobe, Mr. Makita; from Nagasaki, Mrs. Konishi and Mr. S. Ohiera; from Shanghai, Mrs. Illustre, Mrs. Francesco and infant, Mrs. A. Levie and Mr. Derrick; for Colombo, from Shanghai, Mrs. Zuerfeld; for Bombay, from Shanghai, Mrs. Sorabjee, Capt. Tanogek and Mr. D. Tata; for Marseilles, from Yokohama, Baron de Buernmann and Mrs. Tarbouch, Messrs. Des Francs and Elfeel; from Kobe, Mr. and Mrs. Abily and infant and Dr. Garrard Tack; from Nagasaki, Messrs. Mahon, Covaer, Le Blat, Berson and O'Elies; from Shanghai, Messrs. Mercus, Bremer, Guerin, Combe, Derouzier, Van Hall, Paul Curhe, Dazy, Henry, Donarlini, Charles, Per, Jarguemart, Jacobey, Merer, Clement, Collin and Rolland.

Per *Toukin*, from Marseilles, for Hongkong, Miss Berthe Trézoude, Messrs. Bettejay, J. Katz, Teillac, Delenze, du Petit, Noel, Darlon, Alfred Mercier and Xavier Chaix; for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Jargemain, Lieuts. Leturg and Regis, Bishops Passerini and Chatagnon, R. R. Fathers Florida, Rossi, Bacigalupe and R. Peroti, Rev. Father Arsene, Brothers Rag's, Pe bore, Philogone and Lielt, Messrs. J. Hurlmann, Schlumberger, Mortreuil, Kamerer, Black, A. Erna, Pagh, Ovesen, L. Bal, A. W. Mengens, de St. Quentin, Biou, Muselier, Graign and Carbonnier; for Nagasaki, Mrs. Kinsky Kassaroff, Sisters Bantaut and Wert; for Kobe, Messrs. Brenner and F. N. Dactoor; for Yokohama, Mrs. Ruegg and child, Messrs. R. Daltan, P. L. Pittman, Gondarean, A. Dreyfus, S. Sato and Y. Kishimoto and Dr. Ribard.

Per *Changsha*, from Japan, Miss Gorham, Messrs. Merrell and Watson.

Per *Laungau*, from Shanghai, Messrs. Berker, Goldman, Haude Gartner, Thorsac, Sehr and Reigel.

Per *Bingo Maru*, from London, &c., for Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. Bain, Miss Bain, Mr. and Mrs. Brockelbant and child, Mrs. Pearson and three children, Mr. and Mrs. Ede, Mr. and Mrs. Forbes, Messrs. Dixon, D. Wilson, Begley, Willie, Ritchie and Michael; for Shanghai, Mrs. Turnbull and child; for Nagasaki, Mr. A. Toge; for Kobe, Prof. Kimura and Mr. Inamura; for Yokohama, H. E. Minister and Mrs. N. Makino

and son, Mrs. Gulland and two children, Mr. and Mrs. Squire and two children, Miss Lorder, Comdr. Tonami, Messrs. Blart, Chiba, Morioka and Inonye.

Per *Thales*, from Swatow, Mr. W. D. Smith.
Per *Ingalls*, from Manila, General Miles and staff.

Per *Chingta*, from Melbourne, Miss Boyd, Lieut. and Mrs. Booni, Mr. A. Kanzenmuer.

Per *Bombay*, from London, for Hongkong, Miss Cocker, Lieut. A. Barron, Sub-Lieuts. J. O. Gilson and F. J. B. Alexander, Ingr. de Paris, Messrs. J. H. Osmond, A. R. Martin, King, Truscott and G. H. Vincent; for Shanghai, Mr. J. Buckley.

Per *Rajaburi*, from Bangkok, Mrs. Engelhardt.

Per *Hailan*, from Coast Ports, Mrs. Tomkins, Mrs. O'Leavy, Messrs. Rosenbluth, J. Marcal, B. E. Hastings, M. Benjamin and Master A. Carvalho.

Per *Kweiyang*, from Tientsin, Dr. Pery.

Per *Krongwa*, from Ang Hin, Miss Kinsque.

Per *Arratoon Apear*, from Calcutta, &c., Master McDonald.

Per *Saturn*, from Amoy, Capt. Hanford and Prince, Messrs. McCarty, Herbert and Martin, U.S.N.

Per *Korea*, from San Francisco, Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Clark, Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Laffin, Mr. and Mrs. David McCarty, Col. J. K. Kanga, Messrs. H. F. Howe, G. James, H. B. McQueen, Chas. S. Derham, C. F. Stone and H. G. Plagemann; from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. P. S. Bent, Masters Bent (2), Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Salkey, Mr. and Mrs. N. Cohn, Lieut.-Comdr. C. C. Marsh, Mrs. R. D. Evans, Miss Evans, Messrs. H. F. Sewall and David Gray; from Kobe, Mrs. Loftis Thackwell, Misses Woods and Whitehead; from Shanghai, Mrs. H. Tabor, Mrs. M. A. A. de Souza, Mrs. J. A. Hay, Mrs. E. Harrison, Mrs. J. J. Leiria, Misses Z. Vance, Fonseca, M. Burgess and L. Pierson, Messrs. Hily, Dyckerhoff, F. Bornemann, Wittmuss, Y. Yangguchi, T. D. McKay and C. Cadenbach.

DEPARTED.

Per *Diamond*, for Amoy, Messrs. F. Bankoy and S. Thomson.

Per *Bingo Maru*, for Japan, H. E. Minister and Mrs. N. Makino and son, Mrs. Gulland and children, Mr. and Mrs. Squire and two children, Miss Lorder, Messrs. Blart, Inamura, Chiba, Morioka, S. Yenonye and K. Suzuki, Prof. Kimura and Comdr. Tonami.

Per *Hiroshima Maru*, for Japan, General Fukushima, Capt. O. Higashi and Surgeon T. Sato.

Per *Iyo Maru*, for Seattle, &c., Mrs. V. Pearson and three children, Mrs. C. M. Turnbull, Miss Turnbull, Mr. and Mrs. G. Brockelbant, Miss Brockelman, Messrs. Wilson, A. C. Verneux, James A. Kelly, R. Greer, L. Motschmann, G. Jones, T. Kumatsu, K. Toge and Murashita.

Per *Rosetta Maru*, for Manila, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Gongar, Mrs. A. B. Street and son, Mrs. D. Daunington and son, Mrs. Rothman, Mrs. Hill, Mrs. Fany Manjon, Mrs. B. Lacroiza, Mr. and Mrs. Barreto and three daughters, Mr. R. Roth, Mrs. K. Shimada, Misses J. Smith, L. Roth, W. L. Cristian, S. Nakamura, H. Hirota, G. Munezaki, H. Fujizaki and C. Sakano, Messrs. H. Blum, F. O'Brien, C. C. Bolinger, P. Abeda, A. Keckeler, A. E. Dampsay, C. B. Linneger, R. B. Melton, H. M. Carlington, W. C. Jack, A. V. Correia, Fredmain, E. Fooks, C. Gell, Wm. King, F. Santos, Kadoomal, Henri Rajjho, Notanmal, E. Licaza K. Kido, M. Ishizaki and F. Nakamura.

Per *Rubi*, for Manila, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Hall, Messrs. R. H. I. Goddard, jr., R. Sturges, C. P. Fowler, F. W. Farresson, T. G. Doyle, J. D. Encarnacion, and Master L. Flores.

Per *Tartar*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Messrs. Joseph A. Sylva, John F. Burton, A. S. Tanner, G. Williams, J. Hardy, C. Christiansen, Geo. H. Lynch, E. Gower, E. A. Young, G. O. Smyth, E. H. Derrick and Major Frederick Hadra; for Nagasaki, Lieut. T. M. Boon, U.S.A.; Mrs. Boon; for Yokohama, Capt. H. Gunn and G. Eichler, U.S.A., and Mr. J. M. Kinsely.

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